

ISC Solved Paper 2018

English Paper - 1 (Language)

Class-XII

(Maximum Marks : 100)

(Time allowed : Three hours)

Attempt all **four** questions.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].
(You are advised to spend not more than **50** minutes on Question 1, **40** minutes on Question 2, **30** minutes on Question 3 and **1 hour** on Question 4.)
(You should begin each answer on a fresh page.)

1. Write a composition (in approximately 450-500 words) on any one of the following subjects: [30]
(You are reminded that you will be rewarded for orderly and coherent presentation of material, use of appropriate style and general accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar.)

- (a) You have recently moved to a new neighbourhood in your city. Describe the new neighbourhood, comparing it to the one you have just left.
- (b) Relate something unpleasant that happened to you during your childhood that nevertheless helped you to grow up and mature.
- (c) 'The end justifies the means.' Argue for or against the statement.
- (d) 'Appearances can be deceptive'. Give your views on this topic.
- (e) Dreams
- (f) Write a short story that ends with the words "..... I really doubt if things could have turned out any better."

Ans. General Guidelines:

The quality of language employed, the range and appropriateness of vocabulary and sentence structure (syntax), the correctness of grammatical constructions, punctuation and spelling (mentioned in the scope of syllabus) will decide the overall grade of the essay.

Marks to be deducted for gross errors like

– errors of agreement and number, serious tense errors, wrong verb form, elementary errors of sentence construction, misuse of vocabulary, errors in spellings, punctuation or lack of it. There should not be any use of incorrect or irrelevant idioms, misuse of pronouns, articles and preposition.

- (a) This is a descriptive topic. The candidates are required to describe the old neighbourhood, the

new neighbourhood and then the similarities and differences between the two.

Detailed Answer

A good neighbour makes our life sweet whereas, a bad neighbour does not make our life very good. We just cannot have neighbours of our own choice. I have recently shifted to a new house in a new locality which seems to be far better than the previous one where we once lived. The new house is good with many facilities and has a wonderful neighbourhood. It is a very pleasant neighbourhood. Here, everybody is literate and everyone is working. We also have got a nice park and a gym nearby, which are the main attractions. There is a bank in the market, grocery shops, small restaurants and medical shops, which are very close-by and approachable. Even transport facility is pretty good. There are buses that will take you to different parts of the city. The railway station is at a ten-minute walk from my house.

In the earlier locality, we were not lucky enough to have a good neighbourhood. Early in the morning people used to quarrel among themselves. Sometimes, ladies would quarrel for water, some would fight for the vehicles parked outside their house. Children fought for petty reasons the whole day. Often the quarrels would be so noisy that passers-by would gather around the colony watching the fights for fun. All the children were very naughty. They used to break the glass doors, windows and cars, they would spoil our garden by plucking leaves and flowers. They also would quarrel with my younger brother very often. They were not good kids and misbehaved with strangers. They abused each other even in front of their own parents. One of our neighbours was literally a lady dracula. She often threw garbage near our gate. On intimation or objection, she would roll up her sleeves and start abusing the one who

dared to object against her. She used to borrow sugar, wheat flour and other sundries from all the neighbours but never returned back.

In our new neighbourhood, it is quite peaceful. We all live in peace and harmony. In case of any kind of emergency to any resident, we all come forward to help that person. I have many friends in my new neighbourhood and we all enjoy playing in the evenings. We celebrate every occasion and festival and this makes it lot more fun and enjoyment for all of us in the neighbourhood. All of us have a feeling of sharing our happiness and sorrows together. Nothing is personal in our lives. We are not just neighbours but we all have unitedly become a large family. In conclusion, I can say that the place where I live is calm and peaceful and it is a delight to live with happy neighbours.

- (b) This is a narrative topic. Candidates must narrate an unpleasant incident that occurred during his/her childhood that nevertheless helped him/her to mature and grow up.

Detailed Answer

Childhood is the most tender period in one's life. Bad times in your childhood could haunt your memories forever. One such incident was my father's untimely death.

As a child, I was very close to my father. My brother was a mamma's boy, but I was my father's angel. He used to work in the navy and would be at sea most of the times. Each of his visits would be a prolonged festival. He would take us shopping and travelling.

When I was hardly seven years old, a man in Papa's uniform came home. When I saw him, I rushed towards him assuming that it is my father. However, as I reached closer, I realised that it was someone else. I ran inside and hid behind my mother.

The man was welcomed by my elder brother. He spoke gravely to my grandfather for a while and then left with a salute. What happened next is still a haze for me. I remember my grandmother break into tears and my grandfather suffer from a heart attack. I remember a stretcher taking my grandfather away. I remember my brother crying helplessly in one corner of the house. The worst that I remember is my mother's glazed look as she saw his pyre burning without a single tear.

Both of us became mom's responsibility from that day. Mom was working in a private company. She had a very tough life managing the house, office and two children. At a very small age, my brother and I helped mom in doing household chores. We took care of each other in mom's absence. My brother studied hard and helped me with my lessons.

Both of us lost our childhood and supported each other by cutting down extra expenses. We

didn't want to be a burden on mom, because after father's demise as she had already lost her health. She used to go into depression very often. Both of us studied by ourselves. In fact, my brother would give private tuitions, to cover our expenses.

Our mom has really taken a lot of pain in our upbringing and education. Being a single parent is very tough indeed. However, this incident has made us grow up before time and we are pretty mature compared to our friends from the same age-group. My father's death has left us with only a single thought – one day, we would like to take care of our mother by supporting her.

- (c) This is an argumentative topic where the candidate must present his/her arguments for or against the topic. Sitting on the fence is not permitted.

Detailed Answer

For the Motion:

In the battle of Kurukshetra, Arjun fired an arrow at Karna although dharma dictated that he should have waited. Was this justified? According to Lord Krishna, it was! He states that it was essential to resort to adharma in order to preserve dharma.

One of the major political thinkers Niccoio Machiavelli seems to agree with Sri Krishna. He states that the end justifies the means. This means that if the goal is worthy, it is not relatable whether the means or noble or not. Human history is filled with such examples. The Mahabharat was not the only war where illicit methods were used to win the war. The bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki led to the end of the second world war, using force in Goa led to its merger with the Indian state and the war of 1971 led to the independence of Bangladesh. Thus, war, though essentially an evil means becomes a necessity to maintain peace and end injustice.

What is morally wrong or morally right is a matter of perception. For example, an individual lying about their qualifications on their resume when trying to get a good job is only trying to provide for his family. Another example would be justifying an abortion to save the mother's life. Thus, life is a dilemma between what is done and what ought to be done.

People who pursue their dreams and goals are more likely to take a path that is filled with obstacles. It is said that success is achieved through very hard work. The dreamer cannot afford to halt in the meanwhile and wait for moral considerations. His sole target will be to achieve his goal or end. Any effort that would make his goal come closer would be welcome.

Let's say the police stops torturing criminals for potential information on the basis that violence is a crime in itself. Do you think people would part with vital information by just asking nicely? Not at all! Similarly, a teacher cannot afford to be lenient or playful. If she doesn't punish her students for their misbehaviour or for not completing the homework, she will be endangering their future.

There are endless such examples. From vaccination to complex surgeries, from strict laws to police vigilance, from dieting to exercise, everything has some difficulty to be borne by the people involved. The means are not always comfortable, correct or morally upright. The end, however, is! And this end justifies the means.

Against the motion

The phrase 'The end justifies the means' is believed to have originated from Machiavelli's book, 'The Prince'. It is interpreted as doing anything that is required to get the result you want. The end should be justifiable regardless of the method used. I do not support this idea.

Charles Dickens, once said,

"Let no man turn aside ever so slightly, from the broad path of honour, on the plausible pretence that he is justified by the goodness of his end."

All good ends can be worked out by good means. The end is important, no doubt, but that doesn't mean one has to compromise on the means to achieve it. History is full of such instances which are criticized by all in general. The Nazi Holocaust of World War-II happened under the pretext that the world needed to be rid of the deceptive Jews. Hitler's goal was to achieve the highest glory for the Germans. He may have been right, but he slaughtered millions of innocents brutally to achieve his goal.

Similarly, the US dropped atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki with an excuse to end the war and bring back 'peace'. The war ended. Peace was brought back, but the cost was very heavy; thousands of Japanese lost their lives and the physical infirmities caused due to the radiation continued for generations.

We classify a 'good' end as something that is noble and helpful. A 'bad' end is something that is selfish and harmful. If the end is achieved by using ideal and acceptable means, it results in overall satisfaction. However, if the end is achieved through ill means, some part of the society is left dissatisfied and miserable.

Imagine if a game is won by sheer hard work of the team. It will win the hearts of all who are watching the match, whether they support the team or not. Contradictorily, if the game is won using foul methods, even the supporters will turn their back to the players.

Morality and ethics are the basis on which our society stands. If these two are played with, then the entire social fabric will break down and the coming generations will yield to any means, whatsoever to achieve their goal. This will result in massive dilution of the social fabric and create criminals outright.

One must adopt the right path to achieve the goal. The American President Barak Obama said, "If you are walking down the right path and you're willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make progress". Goethe said, "What by a straight path cannot be reached, by crooked ways is never won." The crux of the matter is that the end does not justify the means.

- (d) This is a reflective topic. Candidates must provide their views on the given topic. They may be for or against the given topic or even sit on the fence.

Detailed Answer

APPEARANCES ARE OFTEN DECEPTIVE

The proverb 'Appearances are often deceptive,' is diametrically opposite to the proverb, "Face is the index of the mind." Some people are impressed by the look of a person. If one is dressed neatly and appears to be very nice and decent, or if he is very handsome – people get influenced by his looks and instantly fall for him. It is only when they are cheated, that they understand that looks are not everything.

Sometimes, bad people wear the guise of a good person, knowing that their appealing appearances would have a sway over the onlookers. Hence, under this tricky situation one has to be cautious as to how far a person is trustworthy. By casual conversation, how that person reacts to different situations, what he/she laughs at, can betray his/her mental maturity, his kindness, his anger, his way of cracking jokes, how he behaves in public places, how he respects the fellow citizens as well as the aged, how he/she spends money and so on, a lot can be judged. These are some of the yardsticks for assessing a person.

Many decent looking people behave in an odd way, while many others, though coarse looking, behave very well. Therefore, it is not possible to judge a person by his/her outer look. Another variant of this proverb would be, "Don't judge a book by its cover."

George Bernard Shaw and Shakespeare were not handsome. But their writings have portrayed their high intelligence. The great writer, Helen Keller, was not a beautiful lady. She was deprived of sight, was hearing impaired, unable to speak when she was just a two-year old child. But fighting against all odds, she later became a celebrity author!

Contrary to this, Walt Disney was not only handsome but also had an international reputation for his steadfast work, devotion

and dedication. So, one must not come to a conclusion by mere external look of a person or a thing, be it a book or any commodity for that matter. A spurious product can be more attractive than a genuine one. Some substandard quality products, mostly from China, look good. However, after some time, they tend to develop problems.

One can hear a politician make false promises. It is only when the voters believe him and elect him, his true colours are exposed.

Remember, it is also said that, "All that glitters is not gold." A very well-polished brass would pass upon more people than rough genuine gold. Do not judge a person by his look. Take cue from the points discussed above and that will serve as the yard stick.

That's the reason, it's quoted that, "All men have eyes, but only few have the gift of penetration."

- (e) **This is a one-word or expository topic. Any type of composition, even a short story, may be written, as long as it is connected with the word.**

Detailed Answer

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. If you don't have a dream, you will go nowhere.

Dreams are necessary. Without dreams, there will be no ambition to chase. There will be no goal to reach. We will all be nothing without dreams. Not having dreams is like chasing a traceless murder. It is like following an invisible shadow. We must know what we want to do and follow that ambition. We can't achieve anything in life without goals, and for these goals, we need to dream.

Most people have dreams; big ones or small ones. Even the most successful people had dreams and that is what has made them what they are today. Dreaming is essential for a human being. Without dreams, you will lose interest in life and finally hate to live life. You will be bored and tired of the same monotonous routines of your daily life and will not even find interest in the most exciting things. Only with dreams, will you find a purpose to live your life. You will start working hard towards the dream and will never lose interest in life. You will never tire and always be motivated. This is the best way to become successful.

But it is just not enough to dream. Many people dream, but only some wake up and work for it. It is essential to work hard for your dreams. Without this hard work, a dream will only remain a desire in the subconscious mind and will never be achieved.

- (f) This is an original short story. The story must end with the given words. The story must contain all the essential elements of a short

story such as, plot, setting, characters, dialogue and must be a logical one.

Detailed Answer

I was perhaps the happiest man on this earth. I had a great job, a wonderful house and a comfortable bank balance. My beautiful wife Bina and cute little daughter Nupur made a complete family. Then, one day, things took a turn for the worse.

I had gone on a business tour to Kolkata when one of my neighbours called me. My wife had met with an accident, and my daughter Nupur had been sent to her maternal grandparents for the time-being. I rushed back to Delhi. Here, the doctors informed me that Bina was suffering from multiple injuries. She had also lost her eyesight.

A long vigil at the hospital and Bina was discharged. It took many weeks for her to be able to walk. I tried to be her greatest support, and Nupur was that bright ray of hope that kept her going. She lived only for the two of us. I was anxious that Bina would not be able to return to a normal life after her handicap. After all, she had lost the ability to see things. I just didn't know what to do.

Additionally, my company had transferred me to Dehradun. My blind wife was unable to go anywhere. For her, it was an entirely new world. She was imprisoned within the four walls of the house feeling her way out through the dark world.

Relief came in the form of a workshop organised by Nupur's school. Handicapped people had come to their school narrating their experiences and encouraging people to overcome their disabilities. Bina and I took it lightly but Nupur was determined to put the idea into practise.

My little girl went pole to post to get her mother out of her depression. She found out more about training blind people and even learnt Braille. She had become Bina's mother teaching her to walk, feel, read and write. She would take her out and show her how to count steps and use her other senses to feel the surroundings. Bina had started living again.

One day, the mother-daughter duo gave me a surprise. Nupur told me we would be going to meet her friend and she ordered an Uber. I was so tired from the day's work that I slept through the way. When we got down, I realised that we were outside a theatre. It was the premier of the movie whose script was written by Bina. I was shocked.

I knew Bina was a writer, but she would be able to write for movies was something new for me. Her hard work and Nupur's love just changed the world. As I watched the story of a girl fighting her blind world, I glanced at my wife and daughter.

I really doubt if things could have turned out any better.

2. You are the editor of your school magazine. You have recently attended a cultural programme in your city. Write an account of this programme (in approximately 300 words) using the points given below: [20]

Date and venue – occasion – Chief guest – other invitees – inauguration – events – other important features – highlights – reaction of audience – conclusion

Ans. This is an article and an exercise in amplification. All points must be included and amplified in the article.

OR

Detailed Answer

Cultural Programme in the 'City of Taj' By Soumya Prajapati, The Editor (Sunshine High School)

The 'City of Taj' held a cultural programme at Sursadan on 14 th November, 2018 on account of Jawahar Lal Nehru's birthday. The cultural programme was organised by the Mayor of Agra and the staff members on the occasion of Children's Day in order to invite children of various schools to participate in the programme. The chief guest of the programme was our Hon. Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Mr. Yogi Adityanath. The other invitees of the evening were honourable principals of well-known schools such as St. Peter's, St. Paul's, St. Condrad's, etc.

The programme started at 5 pm with the inauguration ceremony performed by Mr. Yogi Adityanath. This was followed by the welcome dance performed by the girls of St. Patrick's. The next events that followed were the dances of various groups representing states of India. This was followed by the a small skit on the famous play 'Kabuliwala' written by Rabindranath Tagore. The highlights of the event were the 'Rock Band' which performed on various music styles such as Western Music, Karnataka Music, etc. Another highlight was the competition on classical singing where the children participated enthusiastically on the stage giving solo performances.

Parents and guests had a glint of pride in their eyes as they watched the mesmerising performances of the young students. The programme ended with the 'Speech of Thanks' delivered by the chief guest where he thanked the organizers for organising the programme which showed the extraordinary talent of the young students. Audience was extremely happy with the programme and the events got an overwhelming response from all of them. Overall, it was a great fest and I am glad that I was a part of the audience and enjoyed this extraordinarily programme.

3. Answer sections (a), (b) and (c).

(a) In each of the following items, sentence A is complete, while sentence B is not. Complete sentence B, making it as similar as possible to sentence A. Write sentence B in each case. [10]

Example:

(0) (A) The heavy showers of rain revived the plants.

(B) The plants.....

Answer: (0) The plants were revived by the heavy showers of rain.

(1) (A) Ashita is the most beautiful girl in the class.

(B) No.....

(2) (A) As soon as she reached home, she learnt that she had to leave for London.

(B) Hardly.....

(3) (A) Ramesh said, "Rajiv, please bring your physics book to school tomorrow."

(B) Ramesh.....

(4) (A) Some of the cakes had been eaten by the boys before the party began.

(B) The boys

(5) (A) If you are not ready to come with me, I will not go.

(B) Unless.....

(6) (A) It is such a wonderful opportunity that we must not miss it.

(B) It is too.....

(7) (A) We did not know that Mr. Francis was retiring and leaving for Ooty.

(B) Little.....

(8) (A) He knew the culprit, but refused to admit it.

(B) Although.....

(9) (A) I am afraid you cannot get admission to the college without clearing the admission test.

(B) I am afraid you cannot be

(10) (A) If Rita had finished her work earlier, she would have gone to the market.

(B) Had.....

Ans. The opening word of each answer (part B) must be given as in the question paper. No other beginning acceptable.

(1) (B) No other girl in the class is as beautiful as Ashita.

(2) (B) Hardly did she reach home when she learnt that she had to leave for London. (simple past – reached)

(3) (B) Ramesh requested Rajiv to bring his Physics book to school the next day / the following day / the day after.

(4) (B) The boys had eaten some of the cakes before the party began.

(5) (B) Unless you are ready to come with me, I will not go.

(6) (B) It is too wonderful an opportunity for us to miss.

- (7) (B) Little did we know that Mr. Francis was retiring and leaving for Ooty.
- (8) (B) Although he knew the culprit, he refused to admit it.
- (9) (B) I am afraid you cannot be admitted to the college without clearing the admission test.
- (10) (B) Had Rita finished her work earlier, she would have gone to the market.
- (b) Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (Do not write the sentence.) [5]
- (1) After his parents died in a car accident, his uncle looked _____ him.
- (2) The chairman says that he will look _____ their complaints.
- (3) The soldiers laid _____ their lives defending their country.
- (4) I was laid _____ for three weeks with a broken leg.
- (5) This book runs _____ a hundred and fifty pages.
- (6) The programme ran _____ six hours.
- (7) The ailing company was taken _____ by the government.
- (8) He takes _____ his grandfather.
- (9) I have an appointment _____ the dentist.
- (10) The best candidate should be appointed _____ the post.

Ans.(b) The candidates have been advised not to copy the sentences. This is done with a view to save their time.

- (1) after , (2) into, (3) down, (4) up, (5) into, (6) for, (7) over, (8) after, (9) with, (10) to.

- (c) Fill in the blanks in the passage given below with the appropriate form of the verb given in brackets. Do not write the passage, but write the verbs in the correct order. [5]

One day a millionaire went to a hotel in New York and _____ (1) (ask) for the cheapest room they _____ (2) (have).

"What _____ (3) (be) the price of the room?" he _____ (4) (ask). The manager _____ (5) (tell) him.

"Is that the cheapest room you _____ (6) (have)? I _____ (7) (stay) by myself and only _____ (8) (need) a small room."

The manager said, "Why do you choose a poor room like that? Your son always _____ (9) (stay) in our most expensive room." 25

"Yes," said the millionaire, "but his father _____ (10) (be) a wealthy man; mine is not."

Ans.(c) The candidates have been advised not to copy the sentence.

- (1) asked, (2) had, (3) is, (4) asked, (5) told, (6) have, (7) am staying, (8) need, (9) stays, (10) is.

- 4. Read the passage given below and answer the questions (a), (b) and (c) that follow:

- (1) I could hear the squeaking that heralded the evening arrival of the bats. I listened to the noises of the approaching night. Every day, my hearing grew sharper. I was learning to filter out whatever I did not need to listen to, and giving no sign that I could hear everything that went on in the house. 30

- (2) I could not sleep. The air was heavy and still, the moon hidden behind thick banks of cloud. Lord Otori was sound asleep. I did not want to leave the house I'd come to love so much, but I seemed to be bringing nothing but trouble to it. Perhaps it would be better for everyone if I just vanished in the night. 5
- (3) Now I heard the hiss of hot water as the bath was prepared, the clatter of dishes from the kitchen, the sliding sigh of the cook's knife, a dog barking two streets away, and the sounds of feet on the wooden bridges on the canals. I knew the sounds of the house, day and night, in sunshine and under the rain. This evening I realized I was always listening for something more. I was waiting too. For what? 10
- (4) I began to wonder if I could get out of the house without setting the dogs barking and arousing the guards. I started consciously listening for the dogs. Usually, I heard them bark on and off throughout the night, but I'd learned to distinguish their barks and to ignore them. I set my ears for them but heard nothing. Then I started listening for the guards: the sound of a foot on stone or a whispered conversation. Nothing. Sounds that should have been there were missing from the night's familiar web. 15
- (5) Now I was wide-awake, straining my ears to hear. There came the slightest of sounds, hardly more than a tremor, between the window and the ground.
- (6) For a moment I thought it was the earth shaking, as it so often did. Another tiny tremble followed, then another. Someone was climbing up the side of the house.
- (7) My first instinct was to yell out, but cunning took over. I rose from the mattress and crept silently to Lord Otori's side. I knelt beside him and whispered in his ear, "Lord Otori, someone is outside."
- (8) He woke instantly, and then reached for the sword and knife that lay beside him. I gestured to the window. The faint tremor came again.
- (9) Lord Otori passed the knife to me and stepped to the wall. I moved to the other side of the window. We waited for the assassin to climb in.
- (10) Step by step he came up the wall, stealthy and unhurried, as if he had all the time in the world. We waited for him with the same patience.
- (11) He paused on the sill to take out the knife he planned to use on us, and then stepped inside. Lord Otori took him in a stranglehold. The intruder wriggled backwards. I leaped at him, and the three of us fell into the garden like a flurry of fighting cats.
- (12) The man fell first, across the stream, striking his head on a boulder. Lord Otori landed on his feet. My fall was broken by one of the shrubs. The intruder groaned, tried to rise, but slipped back into the water.
- (13) "Get a light," Lord Otori said.

- (14) I ran to the house, took a light that still burned in one of the candle stands and carried it back to the garden.
- (15) The assassin had died without regaining consciousness. It turned out he had a poison pellet in his mouth and had crushed it as he fell. He was dressed in black, with no marking on his clothes. I held the light over him. There was nothing to tell us who he was. 35

Adapted from: *Tales of the Otori* by Lian Hearn

- (a) (i) Given below are four words and phrases. Find the words which have a similar meaning in the passage: [4]
- (1) Coming near
 - (2) Disappeared suddenly
 - (3) Awakening from sleep
 - (4) Moved slowly and gradually
- (ii) For each of the words given below, write a sentence of at least ten words using the same word unchanged in form, but with a different meaning from that which it carries in the passage: [4]
- (1) Bats (line 1)
 - (2) Sign (line 4)
 - (3) Banks (line 6)
 - (4) Back (line 43)

Ans. (a) (i) Candidates are instructed to find words, from the passage which have a similar meaning to those given in the question paper.

- (1) Approaching
- (2) Vanished
- (3) Arousing
- (4) Crept

(ii) The candidates are instructed to use the following words in sentences of their own but with a different meaning from that used in the passage. If the form of the word is changed, or the meaning is the same as that of the passage - marks deducted

- (1) Bats as used in the passage: winged mammals
Can be used as: verb – bat your eyes; cricket bat; verb – bat in a match, bat for me (support me)
- (2) sign – as used in the passage: indication
Can be used as: verb – to sign; use gestures to tell something; sign up; sign out; borrow, sign off; sign on; join; sign language, broadcast, etc.; recruit a sports player, sign in; sign of zodiac
- (3) banks - as used in the passage: big masses
Can be used as: bank for money (noun); verb – aircraft turning; depends upon something or someone, banks of the river
- (4) Back: as used in the passage: in the opposite direction
Can be used as: rear part of a person's body; give support to; back up – make copies of (all phrasal verbs accepted)

(b) Answer the following questions in your own words as briefly as possible:

- (i) What could the narrator hear as he was lying down? [3]
- (ii) Why couldn't the narrator sleep? [2]
- (iii) When did he realise that there was something wrong? [2]
- (iv) How did the narrator and Lord Otori overpower the intruder? [3]

Ans. (b) Candidates have to answer the questions as briefly as possible and in their own words. Marks deducted for excessive length and rambling, gross error/errors, lifting from the passage. Candidates should draw their material only from the passage.

- (i) The narrator could hear the bats signalling their arrival, the hiss of hot water for the bath, a clatter of dishes, the sigh of the cook's knife, a dog barking and the sound of feet on the wooden bridges.
- (ii) The narrator couldn't sleep because the air was heavy and still, and he was upset because he felt he was bringing trouble to the house he loved.
- (iii) He realised there was something wrong when he could not hear barking of the dogs and the sounds of the guards.
- (iv) The narrator and Lord Otori waited patiently for the intruder. Then Lord Otori took him in a stranglehold and the narrator leapt at him.

(c) Describe the incident of the assassination attempt that took place during the night, in not more than 100 words (Paragraphs 4 to 15). Failure to keep within the word limit will be penalised. You will be required to:

- (i) List your ideas clearly in point form. [6]
- (ii) In about 100 words, write your points in the form of a connected passage. [6]

Ans. Summary:

- (i) A minimum of six points are required. Marks are given for content. The following points could also be combined into six.
- (ii) Marks are awarded for expression and the candidate's ability to express the points clearly. Marks deducted for linguistic errors.

Possible points:

1. • The narrator realised that he could hear the normal familiar sounds of the night.
 - He came wide awake and strained his ears to hear.
2. • He realised he could hear a very slight sound.
 - He thought it was a tremor.
 - He realised that someone was climbing up the side of the house.

- 3. • He woke up Lord Otori and both of them waited patiently for the assassin on either side of the window.
- 4. • The assassin reached the window and readied himself for the kill.
- 5. • Lord Otori took him in a stranglehold and the narrator attacked him.
- 6. • They fell into the garden.
- The man struck his head on a boulder but Lord Otori and the narrator were unhurt.
- Lord Otori told him to bring a light.
- In the light, they realised that he had died and that they could not make out who he was.

The	narrator	heard	unfamiliar	sounds
one	right	while	Lord	Otori
was	escape	he	thought	it
was	a	terror	but	he
realised	that	someone	was	climbing
up	the	side	of	the
house	He	woke	up	Lord
Otori	when	the	assassin	reached
the	window	Lord	Otori	held
him	strangely	and	the	narrator
attached	him.	They	fell	into
the	garden	The	man	struck
his	head	on	a	boulder
but	Lord	Otori	and	the
narrator	were	unhurt	Lord	Otori
told	him	to	bring	a
light	In	the	light	they
realised	that	he	had	died
and	that	they	could	not
make	out	who	he	was

Summary :

The narrator heard unfamiliar sounds one right while Lord Otori was escape he thought it was a terror but he realised that someone was climbing up the side of the house. He woke up Lord Otori when the assassin reached the window Lord Otori held him strangely and the narrator attached him. They fell into the garden The man struck his head on a boulder but Lord Otori and the narrator were unhurt Lord Otori told him to bring a light In the light they realised that he had died and that they could not make out who he was

