

Total number of printed pages: 6

NB /XII/ENG/1

2023
ENGLISH

Full marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

General instructions:

i) *Approximately 15 minutes is allotted to read the question paper and revise the answers.*

ii) *The question paper consists of 14 questions. All questions are compulsory.*

iii) *Marks are indicated against each question.*

iv) *Internal choice has been provided in some questions.*

N.B: *Check that all pages of the question paper are complete as indicated on the top left side.*

SECTION-A (Literature)

1. Answer **any five** of the following questions: **5x2=10**

- (a) Jean-Victor developed an admiration for Hardimont. Why?
- (b) Which experiences transformed the life of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf?
- (c) Describe Susan's experience of learning to drive the motorbike.
- (d) What punishment was pronounced by Red Chief for Bill and Sam?
- (e) What is neuro- leadership?
- (f) What type of leaders does our modern complex society call for?

2. Answer **any one** of the following questions in about 150 words: **5**

- (a) According to Sirleaf, what are the challenges women still face in many parts of the world?
- (b) Write the character sketch of Red Chief.
- (c) 'A Piece of Bread' is the story of the bond between a duke and a soldier. Justify the title.

3. Read the lines from the poem and answer **any two** questions that follow:

I. *Let me not to the marriage of true minds
Admit impediments. Love is not love
Which alters when it alteration finds,*

- (a) What is meant by the 'marriage of true minds'? **1**
- (b) Why is the poet not ready to admit any kind of hindrance in love? **1**
- (c) When is love not love? **1**

II. *I am not yet born; provide me
With water to dandle me, grass to grow for me, trees to talk to me, sky to
sing to me, birds and a white light in the back of my mind to guide me.*

- (a) What does the unborn child want? **1**
 (b) Is the speaker a lover of nature? **1**
 (c) What does the poet refer to as 'a white light'? **1**

III. *Ah! As the heart grows older
 It will come to such sights colder
 By and by, nor spare a sigh
 Though worlds of wanwood leafmeal lie;
 And yet you will weep and know why.
 Now no matter, child, the name
 Sorrow's springs are the same.*

- (a) What is the narrator assuring the child? **1**
 (b) Why will the child be 'colder' and 'not spare a sigh'? **1**
 (c) What according to the narrator is sorrow's springs? **1**

iv. *Plunged in the battery- smoke
 Right thro' the line they broke;
 Cossack and Russian
 Reel'd from the sabre-stroke
 Shatter'd and sunder'd.
 Then they rode back, but not
 Not the six hundred.*

- (a) What does 'battery- smoke' refer to here? **1**
 (b) Who rode back and why not the whole Brigade of the six hundred? **1**
 (c) Identify the poetic device used in lines 4 and 5. **1**

4. What message does the poem 'Prayer before Birth' convey to the readers? **4**

Or

How has the poet described love with reference to the concept of time in the poem, 'Let Me Not to the Marriage of True Minds'?

5. *I came to bury Caesar, not to praise him.
 The evil that men do lives after them,
 The good is oft interred with the bones;
 So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus.
 Hath told you Caesar was ambitious;*

- (a) Who is the speaker? **1**
 (b) Who is Brutus and why does the speaker call him noble? **2**
 (c) Does the speaker really believe that Caesar was ambitious?
 Give evidence. **2**

Or

Antony uses Caesar's will to turn his audience completely in his favour and against the injustice of the assassination. Write a short note on this incident. **5**

6. Answer **any two** of the following questions in about 150 words: **5x2=10**
- (a) Describe in detail how the ghost speaks of the Garden of Death and how he explains the verse on the library window.
 - (b) Write a note on the humour and satirical elements in 'The Canterville Ghost'.
 - (c) Give a detailed character sketch of Sir Simon the ghost.

Section-B (Reading)

7. Too many parents these days can't say no. As a result, they find themselves raising 'children' who respond greedily to the advertisements aimed right at them. Even getting what they want doesn't satisfy some kids; they only want more. Now, a growing number of psychologists, educators and parents think it's time to stop the madness and start teaching kids about what's really important: values like hard work, contentment, honesty and compassion. The struggle to set limits has never been tougher—and the stakes have never been higher. One recent study of adults who were over indulged as children, paints a discouraging picture of their future: when given too much too soon, they grow up to be adults who have difficulty coping with life's disappointments. They also have distorted sense of entitlement that gets in the way of success in the work place and in relationships.

Psychologists say that parents, who overindulge their kids, set them up to be more vulnerable to future anxiety and depression. Today's parents themselves raised on values of thrift and self-sacrifice, grew up in a culture where 'no' was a household word. Today's kids want much more, partly because there is so much more to want. The oldest members of this generation were born in the late 1980s, just as PCs and video games were making their assault on the family room. They think of MP3 players and flat screen TV as essential utilities, and they have developed strategies to get them. One survey of teenagers found that when they crave for something new, most expect to ask nine times before their parents give in. By every measure, parents are shelling out record amounts. In the heat of this buying blitz, even parents who desperately need to say no find themselves reaching out for their credit cards.

Today's parents aren't equipped to deal with the problem. Many of them, raised in the 1960s and 70s, swore they'd act differently from their parents and have closer relationships with their own children. Many even wear the same designer clothes as their kids and listen to the same music. And they work more hours; at the end of a long week, it's tempting to buy peace with 'yes' and not mar precious family time with conflict. Anxiety about the future is another factor. How do well intentioned parents say no to all the sports gear and arts and language lessons they believe will help their kids thrive in an increasingly

competitive world? Experts agree: too much love won't spoil a child. Too few limits will.

What parents need to find, is a balance between the advantages of an affluent society and the critical life lessons that come from waiting, saving and working hard to achieve goals. That search for balance has to start early. Children need limits on their behaviour because they feel better and more secure when they live within a secured structure.

Older children learn self-control by watching how others, especially parents act. Learning how to overcome challenges is essential to becoming a successful adult. Few parents ask kids to do chores. They think their kids are already overburdened by social and academic pressures. Every individual can be of service to others, and life has meaning beyond one's own immediate happiness. That means parents eager to teach values have to take a long, hard look at their own.

(Based on your reading of the passage, answer the following questions)

- I. (a) What values do parents and teachers want children to learn? **1**
 (b) What are the results of giving the children too much too soon? **1**
 (c) Why do today's children want more? **2**
 (d) What is the balance which the parents need to have in today's world?
 What is the necessity to set limits for children? **1+1=2**
- II. Give the antonyms of the words from the passage: **2x1=2**
 (a) Sanity
 (b) Impoverished
8. Read the following passage and prepare notes on the contents of the passage and summarize in about 80 words using the notes that you have made: **4+3=7**

Although stupidity is commonly defined as a lack of normal intelligence, stupid behaviour is not the behaviour of a person lacking in intelligence but the behaviour of a person not showing good judgement or sense. In fact, stupidity comes from the Latin word that means 'senseless'. Therefore, stupidity can be defined as the behaviour of a person of normal intelligence who acts in a particular situation as if he or she isn't very bright. Stupidity exists at three levels of seriousness.

First is the simple, relatively harmless level. Behaviour at this level is often amusing. It is humorous when someone places the food from a fast food restaurant on the roof of the car while unlocking the door and drives away with the food still on the roof. We call this absent-mindedness. The person's good sense or intelligence was temporarily absent. At this level, other than causing inconvenience or embarrassment, no one is hurt by stupid behaviour. The next type – serious stupidity- is more dangerous. Practical jokes such as putting sugar in the salt shakers are at this level. The intention is humorous, but there is a chance of harm. Irresponsible advice given to others is also serious stupidity. An

example is a person who plays psychiatrist on the basis of an introductory psychology course or doing a TV program on psychiatry. The intention may be to help, but if the victim really needs psychiatric help, an amateur will only worsen the situation.

Even worse is the third kind of stupidity. Kind people, who would never injure another living being, stupidly throw away a box of six-week old kittens along a country road. Lacking the heart to kill the poor things, they sentence them to almost certain death from wild animals, infections, exposure or the wheels of a passing vehicle. Yet, they are able to tell themselves that 'they will find nice homes 'or' animals can get along in the wild'. Another kind of this stupidity is the successful local business man who tries to have as many office affairs as he can get away with. He risks the loss of his business and home. He fails to see that what he is doing is wrong. His is the true moral stupidity of a person not willing to think about the results of his actions or to take responsibility for them. The common defense of a person guilty of stupidity is –'But I didn't think....' This, however, is not proper excuse, especially when serious or harmful stupidity is involved.

SECTION-C (WRITING)

9. You are the Manager of Authentic Pick, a family clothing showroom, Dimapur. Draft a suitable advertisement to be published in the local dailies, offering 50% discount on all garments.

Or

4

Read the following paragraph and express your opinion in not more than 50 words on whether you agree or disagree with the ideas mentioned in it.

Social media plays a very important role in today's life. It enables people to discover and learn new information, share ideas, interact with new people and organizations and so on. It has changed the way people live their life and made communication much easier. On the other hand, it creates many problem involving mental health, emotional insecurities and waste of time. It acts as a platform for drama, bullying, trolling, harassment and much more.

10. You are John, the secretary of the students union of Riverdale High, Kiphire. Of late discipline is going down in your school, therefore the principal has asked you to give a speech on the relevance of 'Discipline shapes the future of a student', to be delivered in the morning assembly. You wish to reiterate the importance of Discipline in one's life.

Write the speech that you would make on such an occasion in about 150-200 words.

Or

5

You are Vivi/Charlie, a special correspondent for 'The Herald'. Write a newspaper report in about 150 words on 'Mokokchung Music Club wins First in India's Got Talent'.

11. You are Leno/Noke, the Secretary of the Students' Forum of Shepherd School, Wokha. Your school has planned an excursion to Delhi during summer vacation. Write a letter to the General Manager, Northern Railways, asking for reservation of a bogie for 60 students from Dimapur to Delhi and back, supplying all the necessary information. **6**

SECTION-D (Grammar)

12. Rewrite the following as directed: **3x1=3**
- (a) The boy speaks the truth. (Present Continuous Tense)
 - (b) I _____ (work) on this project for four months by May. (Future Perfect Continuous Tense)
 - (c) Aaron was helping mother with the cooking. His friends called. (Combine the sentences using Past Perfect Continuous Tense)
13. Use the following idioms and phrases to make sentences of your own: **3x1=3**
- (a) In the nick of time
 - (b) Wolf in sheep's clothing
 - (c) Like chalk and cheese
14. Fill in the blanks with correct modals: **4x1=4**
- (a) One _____ keep one's promise.
 - (b) I _____ rather read a novel than watch that stupid movie.
 - (c) Tom _____ attend the service in the evening.
 - (d) Till last year, I _____ read without glasses.
