

H.S.L.C QUESTION PAPER - 2023

SUBJECT : ENGLISH

SECTION-A

1. Choose correct options for the following: 1×10 = 10

(i) "A plague of locusts would have left more than this....." What does the underlined word mean?

- (a) a herd of animals. (c) a flock of birds.
(b) a swarm of bees. (d) a swarm of insects.

(ii) The postmaster – a fat, amiable fellow – also broke out laughing –". Choose from below the word that is same in meaning as 'amiable–

- (a) huge. (c) jealous.
(b) friendly. (d) angry.

(iii) Apartheid is a political system that separates people according to their _____.

- (a) religion. (c) race.
(b) language. (d) gender.

(iv) In life, every man has twin obligations — what is another word for 'obligations'?

- (a) duty. (c) wealth.
(b) hobbies. (d) livelihood.

(v) Between Mysore and the coastal town of _____ sits a piece of heaven.

- (a) Travancore. (c) Cuddalore.
(b) Mangalore. (d) Bangalore.

(vi) Lencho hoped for help from _____.

- (a) neighbours.
- (b) sons.
- (c) God.
- (d) wife.

(vii) _____ has the largest concentration of tea plantations in the world.

- (a) Darjeeling.
- (b) Tamil Nadu.
- (c) Assam.
- (d) Kerala.

(viii) Tea was first drunk in _____.

- (a) China.
- (b) Japan.
- (c) England.
- (d) India.

(ix) Despite having a strong desire, what did Valli resist in the fair to save for the bus fare?

- (a) merry-go-round.
- (b) ribbons.
- (c) snacks.
- (d) lollipops.

(x) For Valli, the most fascinating thing to watch was

- (a) cows grazing in the field.
- (b) children playing in the street.
- (c) the bus that travelled between her village and the nearest town.
- (d) the bullock-carts on the village street.

2. Choose the correct answer of the following: 1×10 = 10

(i) The captured tiger is stalking in

- (a) the stable.
- (b) the cage.
- (c) the zoo.
- (d) the night street.

(ii) Chocolate was harmful for Amanda's _____.

- (a) nails. (c) acne.
(b) hair. (d) tummy.

(iii) The word 'rigid' means

- (a) Flux. (c) hard.
(b) soft. (d) dry.

(iv) Custard was the name of a _____.

- (a) dragon. (c) cat.
(b) dog. (d) biscuit.

(v) The world, as mentioned in 'The Ball Poem', is one of _____.

- (a) balls. (c) fun.
(b) friends. (d) possessions.

(vi) Griffin was a _____.

- (a) teacher. (c) driver.
(b) scientist. (d) trader.

(vii) The speaker in 'The Hack Driver' was sent to a town _____ miles away in the country.

- (a) twenty. (c) forty.
(b) thirty. (d) fifty.

(viii) Max was like _____ a , according to the author of 'The Midnight Visitor'.

- (a) deer. (c) wolf.
(b) hyena. (d) fox.

(ix) Mandela's country is rich in _____

- (a) forests and lakes. (c) gems and minerals.
(b) agriculture. (d) hills and rivers.

(x) The main crop of Coorg is _____

- (a) rice. (c) tea.
(b) coffee. (d) peanuts.

3. Write very short answers to the following questions: 1×10 = 10

- (i) What is Coorg home to ?
(ii) Name the tea garden where Pranjol's father was posted as a manager.
(iii) "_____ there it is in water". What does 'it' refer to here? ('The Ball Poem')
(iv) Who is the poet of the poem 'Animals'?
(v) In the first stanza of the poem 'Amanda', what is Amanda told not to do?
(vi) Which place was known as the centre of the theatre world ? ('Foot Prints without Feet')
(vii) Who was following Ausable in the corridor of the French hotel?
(viii) What was people's opinion about Horace Danby ?
(ix) Why is the boy in 'The Ball Poem' upset?
(x) Why would the poet like to turn and live with the animals ?

4. Fill in the blanks with correct prepositions in Part – A and with correct determiners in Part – B. 1×10 = 10

PART-A

(i) Put the cup _____ the dish.

- (a) at. (c) on.
(b) in. (d) over.

(ii) The cows are _____ the field.

- (a) in. (c) on.
(b) to. (d) by.

(iii) Lila lives _____ her parents.

- (a) by. (c) upon.
(b) with. (d) at.

(iv) He is fond _____ reading novels.

- (a) at. (c) of.
(b) in. (d) for.

(v) This shop deals _____ stationery.

- (a) at. (c) with.
(b) in. (d) about.

PART-B

(vi) My friend is _____ M.A. in English.

- (a) a. (c) The.
(b) an. (d) that

(vii) _____ book you have mentioned is out-of-print.

- (a) A. (c) Many.
(b) The. (d) Some.

(viii) Kindness is _____ great virtue.

- (a) the. (c) that.
(b) much. (d) a.

(ix) _____ Taj Mahal is one of the wonders of the world.

- (a) The. (c) That.
(b) This. (d) A.

(x) Is there _____ sugar in the pot?

- (a) little. (c) much.
(b) few. (d) any.

5. Answer the following questions as directed: 1×5 = 5

- (i) Whom did you call? (Change into Passive)
(ii) The glass was not broken by the boy. (Change into Active)
(iii) Shillong is colder than Simla. (Rewrite in Positive degree)
(iv) He said, "I can do it." (Change into Indirect)
(v) Rina asked him politely not to go home then. (Change into Direct)

SECTION-B

6. Give short answers to the following: 2×8 = 16

- (i) What were Lencho's feelings after the hailstorm was over?
(ii) Why does the postmaster send money to Lencho?
(iii) What is courage according to Mandela?
(iv) Mention a few adventure sports that one can enjoy at Coorg.
(v) Explain the expression 'quiet rage' in the context of the poem 'A Tiger in the Zoo'.
(vi) What kind of person was the bus conductor? How did he address Valli?
(vii) Why did Rajvir prefer to look out of the train window instead of reading?
(viii) Name the pets that Belinda had besides the dragon.

7. Answer any two from the following: 4×2 = 8

- (i) Narrate how Ausable managed to make Max believe that there was a balcony attached to his room.
(ii) What led Horace Danby to break open the safe containing jewellery at Shot-over Grange?

- (iii) Describe, after the narrator in 'The Hack Driver', the character of Bill.
(iv) Write about any one incident which proves that Griffin was a lawless person.

8. Write an essay on either of the following topics: 5×1 = 5

- (i) Science in Daily Life.
(ii) A Rainy Day.

OR

Develop a short story with the following hints. Give a suitable title. Two cats steal a cake – they quarrel over their share – they ask a monkey for making two equal divisions of the cake – cats are deceived.

9. Write a letter to your friend inviting him/her to your place during the summer vacation. 3×1 = 3

OR

Use the following information to write a Report on the Prize Distribution ceremony of your school.

Date: Monday, 15th March

Time: 11 am

Place: School Auditorium

President of the function: Headmaster of the school

Details of the event: Recitations, Singing of the School Anthem, Songs by school students, Annual Report by the Headmaster, Distribution of prizes, Address by the Chief Guest, President's Address, Vote of Thanks by the School Monitor.

10. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: 6

(i) The theory of Arab origin draws support from the long, black coat with an embroidered waist-belt worn by the Kodavus. Known as Kuppia, it resembles the Kuffia worn by the Arabs and the Kurds.

Coorgi homes have a tradition of hospitality, and they are more than willing to recount numerous tales of valour related to their sons and fathers. The Coorg Regiment is one of the most decorated in the Indian Army and the first Chief of the Indian Army, General Cariappa, was a Coorgi. Even now Kodavus are the only people in India permitted to carry firearms without a license.

The river Kaveri obtains its water from the hills and forests of Coorg.

- (a) Where does Kaveri get its water from? 1
- (b) Who was the first Chief of the Indian Army? 1
- (c) Write briefly about the valour of the people from Coorg. 2
- (d) Why is it believed that Coorgies are of Arab origin? 2

(ii) Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: 4

Walking is a very good exercise. When we walk in the morning, we feel fresh and it energises us. It is important to develop good habits and a morning walk is one habit that we should have. When we take walks regularly in the morning everyday) our daily routine will also be well organized As the early morning environment is suited for walking, we will also develop the habit of rising early.

- (a) What is a very good exercise? 1
- (b) What happens when we take morning walks everyday? 1
- (c) Name two benefits we derive from a morning walk. 1
- (d) Which environment is suitable for walking? 1

11. Translate into the language as per your MIL/(IL) Subject: 1 x 3 = 3

- (i) Man is mortal.
- (ii) We should respect our elders.

(iii) Kashmir is known as the Heaven on Earth.

OR

Write a substance for the following:

It is easy to acquire bad habit, such as eating too much food or eating too many sweets or drinking too much fluid of any kind or smoking. The more we do a thing, the more we tend to like doing it; and if we do not continue to do it, we feel unhappy. This is called the force of habit and the force of habit should be fought against. Things which may be very good when only done from time to time, tend to become harmful when done too often, too much. This applies even to such good things as work or rest. Some people form a habit of working too much and others of idling too much. The wise man always remembers that this is true about himself, and he checks if he has any bad habit. He says to himself, "I am now becoming idle" or "I smoke too much", and then he adds, "I will get myself out of this bad habit at once."