# LIONS SCHOOL MIRZAPUR HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION 2020-21

Time: 3 Hrs.

M.M.: 80

CLASS XII ENGLISH CORE (Code – 301)

#### Part A 40 marks

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (12 Marks)

Q.1 One day after I had jumped on to a bus, I found that I had left home without any money in my pocket. Almost everyone has had this experience and knows the feeling — the mixed feeling — which such a discovery arouses. You are annoyed because you look like a fool at the best and like a knave at the worst. You would not be surprised if the conductor eyed you coldly as much as to say, "Yes, I know that stale old trick. Now then, off you get." And even if the conductor is a good fellow and lets you down easily, you are faced with the necessity of going back and the inconvenience, perhaps of missing your train or your engagement.

Having searched my pockets in vain for stray coppers, and having found I was utterly penniless, I told the conductor with as honest a face as I could assume that I could not pay the fare, and must go back for money. "Oh, you needn't get off; that is all right," said he. "All right", said I, "but I haven't a copper on me". "Oh, I will book you through", he replied, "Where do you want to go?" and he handled his bundle of tickets with the air of a man who was prepared to give me a ticket for anywhere, from the stop to the last point where the bus was to terminate. I said it was very kind of him and told him where I wanted to go, and as he gave the ticket I

said, "But where shall I send the fare?" "Oh, you will see me some day all right," he said cheerfully, as he turned to go. And then luckily, my fingers, still wandering in the corners of my pockets, lighted on a shilling and the account was squared. But that fact did not lessen the glow of pleasure which so good-natured an action had given me.

A few days after, my most sensitive toe was trampled on rather heavily as I sat reading while travelling in a bus. I looked up with some anger

and more agony and saw my friend of cheerful countenance. "Sorry Sir," he said, "I know these are heavy boots. Got them because my own feet got trod on so much and now I am treading on other people's. Hope I did not hurt you, Sir." He had hurt me but he was so nice about it that I assured him he hadn't. After this I began to observe him whenever I boarded his bus and found a curious pleasure in the constant good nature of his bearing. He seemed to have an inexhaustible fund of patience and a gift for making his passengers

comfortable. With old people he was as considerate as a son and with children as solicitous as a father. He had evidently a peculiarly warm place in his heart for young people and always indulged in some merry jest with them. If he had a blind man on board it was not enough to set him down safely on pavement. He would call Bill in front to wait while he took him across the road or round the corner, or otherwise safely on his way. In short, I found that he irradiated such an atmosphere of good temper and kindliness that a journey with him was a lesson in natural courtesy and good manners.

What struck me particularly was the ease with which he got through his work. If bad manners are infectious, so also are good manners. If we encounter incivility most of us are apt to become uncivil, but it is an unusually uncouth person who can be disagreeable with sunny people. It is with manners as with the weather. "Nothing clears up my spirits like a fine day," said Keats, and a cheerful person descends on even the gloomiest of us with something of the benediction of a fine day. And so it was always fine weather on the polite conductor's bus, and his own civility, his conciliatory address and good-humoured bearing infected his passengers. In lightening their spirits, he lightened his own task. His gaiety was not a wasteful luxury, but a sound investment.

I have missed him from my bus route of late; but I hope that only means that he has carried his sunshine on to another road. It cannot be too widely diffused in a rather drab world. And I make no apologies for writing a panegyric on an unknown bus conductor. If Wordsworth could gather lessons of wisdom from the poor leech gatherer 'on the lonely moor,' I see no reason why lesser people should not take lessons in conduct from one who shows how a very modest calling may be dignified by good temper and kindly feeling.

It is a matter of general agreement that the war has had a chilling effect upon those little every day civilities of behaviour that sweeten the general air. We must get those civilities back if we are to make life kindly and tolerable for each other.

- I. On the basis of your understanding of the passage answer the questions that follow with the help of the given options.  $1 \times 10 = 10 \text{ Marks}$
- 1 Why did the passenger board the bus?
  - (i) to meet his friend (ii) to meet his boss
  - (iii) to enjoy himself (iv) to reach his destination
- 2 Finding himself pocketless, the passenger felt
  - (i) nervous (ii) guilty (iii) confused (iv) all the first three options
- 3 The passenger was sure that the conductor would
  - (i) insult the passenger (ii) ask the passenger to get down
  - (iii) welcome the passenger (iv) give him his seat

- The passenger found a pleasure whenever he boarded the bus because the conductor
  - (i) was funny (ii) enjoyed himself
  - (iii) had good nature (iv) would not disturb
- 5 The traveler found that while traveling on bus he was without
  - a. Any file
  - b. Any passport
  - c. His Aadhar card
  - d. Any money in his pocket
- 6 You are annoyed because you look like
  - a. A fool at the worst
  - b. A knave at the worst
  - c. An idiot at the worst
  - d. None of these
- 7 What what is true about the conductor's feelings
  - a. He considers you're forgetting money is an old trick to escape the payment of bus fare
  - b. He considers you an innocent man
  - c. He considers you to be a wicked man
  - d. None of the above
- 8 What did the traveller tell the conductor
  - a. He will pay the fair tomorrow
  - b. He will borrow the money from someone
  - c. He could Not pay the fare
  - d. None of these
- 9 Listening to this that the traveller did not have any money to pay the bus fare the conductor was
  - a. Annoyed
  - b. Very happy
  - c. Said get out
  - d. Said that he would book him through
- 10 Where did the conductor want to accept the fare money
  - a. At the Booking window
  - b. At his house
  - c. He would collect the money from the travellers house
  - d. The place was not defined
- 11 Who wore the heavy boots?

- a. The traveller
- b. The conductor
- c. An old man
- d. None of these

# **Q2.** Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

One day, three Bairagi sadhus came to meet Babaji. A rogue elephant was behaving violently and had turned terribly destructive, they said. It had killed at least six people, including two forest guards. The forest department was at its wit's end and was unable to capture it. Only the day before, they said, it had raided a sadhu's kutir and trampled him to death. People were afraid of travelling to Neelkant because the elephant lurked, hidden in the forest midway between Rishikesh and Neelkant, not far from Mouni Baba's cave. It would even attack in broad day and could Babaji help in some way?

Babaji smiled and said, "Today, I shall not do anything about the elephant God who is angry. Tomorrow, being the full moon, I shall see what I can do. Meanwhile, please stay here tonight and have no fear. Hari Om." With that the conversation ended and Babaji turned to me and said, "Tomorrow night, come with me. We need to teach Gainath a good lesson and calm him down."

Around midnight Babaji woke me. The full moon was out in all its glory. We walked down from the cave and entered the forest. We walked for a while and then sat down on a flat surfaced rock. After a while, I saw a full grown leopard come out of the bushes in front of us. It looked in our direction and stopped.

Babaji said, "Put your palms together in namaskar and bow to the leopard. Say in your mind, you are a manifestation of the Divine, you are the companion of Durga. We mean no harm. I bow before you." I did as instructed. The leopard stared at us for a long time and then walked away.

We waited for the elephant. He appeared suddenly from nowhere and burst forth from behind us. He trumpeted and charged towards us. Babaji and I turned around. I froze with fear. Just before he reached us, Babaji put up his right hand and the elephant froze. It stood still and looked at Babaji with complete attention, with one of his front legs lifted up and moving his body back and forth with his three legs in a swaying motion.

Babaji spoke to him firmly but softly in Hindi. I know this sounds insane but I shall not desist from reporting the incident. "So," said Babaji, "is this the way to behave dear friend? I know you resent the presence of noisy human beings who disturb your solitude but this is no way to react. You are in the state of mast. I can see it. The excess

male hormones are influencing your actions. I'll make all that subside and you will soon become normal. Here!"

Before my astonished eyes, Babaji stepped forward and placed his right hand on the elephant's forehead. With the left, he stroked his trunk. The elephant stopped swaying, went down on his knees and touched Babaji's feet with the tip of his trunk. He then stood up and raising his trunk high up, trumpeted with joy and moved away. He gave up his violent behaviour and thereafter it was safe for pilgrims and sadhus to move freely.

- i. Which of the following statement is true-
- a. Three Naga sadhus came to meet babaji
- b. Tu bairagi sadhu scheme to meet babaji
- c. Sri bairagi sadhu was came to meet me
- d. Three bairagi sadhu came to meet babaji
- ii. How many people had been killed by the elephant
- a. Less than 6 people
- b. 6 people
- c. It could be more than six people
- d. None of the above
- iii. What do you understand by the term at the wits end
- a. At the first end of the wit
- b. At the last end of the wit
- c. At both ends of the wit
- d. Unable to understand what to do
- iv. What did the sadhus expect from babaji
- a. They wanted babaji to kill the elephant
- b. They wanted babaji to accommodate them in his kutir
- c. They wanted babaji to help them in some way
- d. They wanted nothing from babaji
- v. Which of the following statement is true
- a. Babajee want to help them On the day of full moon
- b. On the day of no moon
- c. He didn't want to help them at all
- d. He wanted to help them immediately

vi When did Babaji woke the author up

- a. Mid night
- b. Mid-day
- c. Dusk
- d. None of these

Vii What did Babaji do to freeze the elephant?

- a. Put up his left hand
- b. Put up his right hand
- c. Called out "halt"
- d. None of these

Viii Babaji spoke to the elephant ......

- a. Harshly
- b. Rudely
- c. Firmly
- d. Firmly but softly

Ix in what state was the elephant?

- a. Must
- b. Mast
- c. Most
- d. Last

X Babaji asked the writer to do *Namashkara* to the..

- a. Elephant
- b. Gajraj
- c. Mahaut
- d. Leopard

Xi what happened to the elephant in the end?

- a. He died
- b. He cried
- c. He sought babaji's forgiveness
- d. He gave up his violent behaviour

**Q.3** Read the following extract carefully answer the questions that follow 1\*8=8 ( Do any two of the three extracts)

From the beginning, however, I had an aversion to the water when I was in it. This started when I was three or four years old and father took me to the beach in California. He and I stood together in the surf. I hung on to him, yet the waves knocked me down and swept over me. I was buried in water. My breath was gone. I was frightened. Father laughed, but there was terror in my heart at the overpowering force of the waves.

Answer the following questions from the options given:

- (i) From the beginning, however, I had a----- for the water
- a. Like
- b. strong like

- c. dislike
- d. none of these
- (ii) This started when the writer was
  - a. 3years of age
  - b. 4years of age
  - c. 5years of age
  - d. 3 or 4 years of age
- (iii) what happened to the writer on the beach
  - a. He slipped and fell down
  - b. He paddled in water
  - c. He was buried in water
  - d. none of these
- (iv) the writer was frightened but his father
  - a. cried
  - b. laughed
  - c. remained cool
  - d. none of these

"It takes longer to build a school," I say, embarrassed at having made a promise that was not meant. But promises like mine abound in every corner of his bleak world. After months of knowing him, I ask him his name. "Saheb-e-Alam," he announces. He does not know what it means. If he knew its meaning — lord of the universe — he would have a hard time believing it. Unaware of what his name represents, he roams the streets with his friends, an army of barefoot boys who appear like the morning birds and disappear at noon. Over the months, I have come to recognise each of them.

Answer the following questions from the options given:

In which questions answer does the writer say that it takes longer to build a school

- a. Is your school ready
- b. Where is your school
- c. When you are going to build your school
- d. None of these

Why was the writer embarrassed

- a. She told the lie to the child
- b. For being rude to the child
- c. For having made an empty promise
- d. None of these

Sahibe alam means

- a. An officer in some concern
- b. And executive of a company
- c. Lord of the universe
- d. None of these

The writer came to recognise all the children because

- a. She asked the name of everyone
- b. She clicked the photograph of everyone
- c. She observed them for nearly a month
- d. None of these

Have you ever been there? It's a wonderful town still, with big old frame houses, huge lawns, and tremendous trees whose branches meet overhead and roof the streets. And in 1894, summer evenings were twice as long, and people sat out on their lawns, the men smoking cigars and talking quietly, the women waving palm-leaf fans, with fire-flies all around, in a peaceful world. To be back there with the First World War still twenty years off, and World War II over forty years in the future... I wanted two tickets for that. The clerk figured the fare — he glanced at my fancy hatband, but he figured the fare — and I had enough for

two coach tickets, one way. But when I counted out the money and looked up, the clerk was staring at me. He nodded at the bills. "That aren't money, mister," he said, "and if you're trying to skin me, you won't get very far,"

and he glanced at the cash drawer beside him. Of course, the money was old-style bills, half again as big as the money we use nowadays, and different-looking. I turned away and got out fast. There's nothing nice about jail, even in 1894.

Which place the writer is talking about

- a. Third level
- b. Galesburg Illinois
- c. Washington DC
- d. New York Central railway station

Which of the following statements are true

- a. It's a wonderful town
- b. The houses are big with frames
- c. The trees are tremendous
- d. All of them

Why did the writer want 2 tickets?

- a. For himself and his psychiatrist friend
- b. For himself and his father
- c. For himself and his wife

d. None of these

What are the bills referred to here?

- a. Electricity bills
- b. Telephone bills
- c. Currency notes
- d. None of these

**Q.4** Read the extract given below and briefly answer the questions that follow 1x4=4 (any one of the two)

Surely, Shakespeare is wicked, the map a bad example

With ships and sun and love tempting them to steal -

for lives that slowly turn in their cramped holes from fog to endless night"

- 1. Why is Shakespeare called wicked?
  - a. Because he's really wicked
  - b. He has cheated the children
  - c. He has cheated their parents
  - d. The presence of his photograph is out of place in the slum classroom because the life Shakespeare has depicted in his writings do not match with the lives of these children.
- 2. Why is map called a bad example?
  - a) Because it has been made by the Rich men.
  - b) Because it does not show the world of the slum children.
  - c) Because it is very old.
  - d) Because it has many errors.
- 3. Where do the children spend their lives?
  - a) They spend their times picking garbage
  - b) They spent their time playing
  - c) They spend their times with parents
  - d) They spend their times in the slum
- 4. What do 'fog' and 'endless night' stand for?
  - a) They stand for nice weather
  - b) They stand for winter
  - c) they stand for summer
  - d) They stand for miseries and sufferings of the slum

Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing A flowery band to bind us to the earth,
Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth

Of noble natures, of the gloomy days,
Of all the unhealthy and o'er-darkened ways
Made for our searching: yes, in spite of all,
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall
From our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon,

### Morrow means-

- a. Moring/day
- b. Marrow
- c. Tomorrow
- d. None of these

# Purpose of wreathing flowery band is?

- a. To sell in the market
- b. For the beloved
- c. For keeping alive or be connected with earth
- d. None of these

# What do you understand by dearth?

- a. Depth
- b. Dough
- c. Ditch
- d. Shortage

# What removes the covering of darkness?

- a. Sun
- b. Moon
- c. Trees
- d. All of them

# Q.5 Answer any 8 of the following questions very briefly 1\*8=8

- a) Who did M. Hamel blame when Franz was unable to answer a question on French participles?
- b) Who are responsible for the plight of the bangle makers?
- c) What did the peddler do after the breakfast?
- d) What were the poet's feelings at the airport?
- e) In which year Charlie wanted to go in the past?
- f) How did the woodland creatures react to the skunk's new smell?
- g) What happened on the seventh day after Dr Sadao had typed the letter?
- h) In the Lost Spring, spring stands for?
- i) I What was the maximum depth of YMCA POOL?
- j) What did Mukesh want to become in future

# PART: B (Subjective questions 40 marks)

(WRITING SKILLS)

Q1. You are Arnit/Arnika .You want to sell your car as you are planning to buy a new one . Draft a suitable advertisement to be published in the Vehicles column of a newspaper.3 Marks

OR

You are sanju or sanjana the secretary of Crescent cooperative group housing society Dwarka New Delhi. Write a notice requesting the members of the society to attend a meeting to discuss the problem of security in your society.

You are Dr. Amit Gupta, an eminent educationist. You have been invited to preside over an Inter Zonal Declamation competition by Nalini, the President of English Literary Club of Government Model Sr. Sec. School, Sector-20, Chandigarh. Write a reply accepting the invitation.
 3 Marks

OR

The literacy Club of your school is putting up the play Waiting for Godot As the secretary of the club draft an invitation inviting the famous writer sudesh Gupta to be the guest of honour at the function write the invitation in not more than 50 words. You are Govind or Gori.

**Q 3.** Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper focusing on the increased thefts and robberies in your locality. Also suggest some useful measures. **5 Marks** 

OR

You are Rajan/ Rajni of New Delhi. you have seen an advertisement for the post of a science teacher in Delhi public School ashok Vihar New Delhi write a letter in response to the advertisement applying for the post. Give your detailed bio data as well.

**Q 4.** On the threshold of being a world super power, India does have a large young workforce but unfortunately not many in this force are employable for want of necessary skills. Write in about 150-200 words, an article for a newspaper on the topic' Skill Development is the need of the hour'. You are Anita/Arnav. **5 Marks** 

OR

With a view to create awareness regarding health St. Anne's school organised 'Health Mela' in the school premises. Various charts, models, fitness equipments were displayed. Lectures, debates, discussions, plays were organised. A workshop

on low calorie cooking was also organised. Write a report in 150-200 words on the same.

## LITERATURE SECTION

## Q. 5 ANSWER ANY FIVE IN ABOUT 30-40 WORDS EACH-

2\*5=10

- 1) Why does Anees Jung say that the bangle makers are caught in a vicious web?
- 2) What was the content of the letter written by the peddler to Edla?
- 3) How did the poet hide her feelings at the airport? was the action genuine?
- 4) What suggestions does the poet give to improve the condition of the slum children?
- 5) What objective does the poet want to gain by keeping quiet?
- 6) How do we associate grandeur with our ancestors?

## Q. 6 ANSWER ANY TWO IN ABOUT 30-40 WORDS EACH-

2\*2=4

- 1) Why does Jo want "Mommy" to be hit by the wizard?
- 2) Do you think Dr. Sadao had a soft corner for Americans?
- 3) What do you opine about the Third Level?

# **Q.7** Answer the following question in 120-150 words:

5 Marks

The writer wonders whether remaining barefoot is an excuse to explain away a perpetual state of poverty. Explain

OR

A Phobia can be defeated by the reason it was caused by. How did William Douglas triumph over the fear of water?

**Q. 8**. Answer the following question in 120-150 words:

5 Marks

Give a brief account of Charley's curious experience at Grand Central. Do you think it is believable? Justify.

OR

What are the morals of the story SHOULD WIZARD HIT MOMMY?