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Roll No.

Date:

NORTHWEST ACCREDITATION COMMISSION, USA

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA (Sr. Secondary/12TH)

Subject- English
Subject Code – E401

Question Paper No. :

Question Paper code:

General Instructions

1. OPENING AND CHECKING OF THE QUESTION-BOOKLET

Break open the seal of the Question-Booklet only when the announcement is made by the Invigilator. After breaking the seal and before attempting the questions, student should immediately check for:

a) The number of the printed page in the Question-Booklet is the same as mentioned on the cover page of the Booklet and

b) Any printing error in the Booklet pages, if any.
Any discrepancy or error should be brought to the notice of the Invigilator who will then replace the Booklet.
No additional time will be given for this.

2. No student, without the permission of the Superintendent, or the Invigilator concerned, is to leave his/her seat or the Examination Room.

3. FILLING UP THE REQUIRED INFORMATION ON QUESTION-BOOKLET AND ANSWER SHEET

After breaking open the seal and checking the Booklet, student should:

a) Fill up the **Question Paper No.** and **Question Paper Code** (mentioned on the cover of Question-Booklet) in the space provided on the First Answer Sheet.

b) Fill up his/her Roll Number on the First Answer Sheet and on each Supplementary Answer Sheet, if taken.

C) Student should mention the total number of **Supplementary Answer Sheet**, if taken, in the space provided on the First Answer Sheet and also fill up the Serial Number mentioned on each **Supplementary Answer Sheet** along with his/her Roll Number in the register maintained by the Invigilator. Student must tie all the Answer Sheets with the thread provided by the Invigilator.

4. INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT QUESTION PAPER

This Question Paper is divided into three Sections – **A, B** and **C**. All Sections are compulsory. Attempt all Sections as per instructions.

- a) Section A is a Reading section includes question No. 1 and 2 and this section includes 20 marks.
- b) Section B is a Writing section includes question No. 3 to 6 and this section includes 35 marks.
- c) Section C is a Text Book section includes question No. 7 to 12 and this section includes 45 marks.

- 5.** Student found in possession of Cellular Phone / Mobile Phone / Pager or any other Communication Device and/or any Book/Note whether using or not, will be liable to be debarred for taking examination(s) either permanently or for specified period or/and dealt with as per law or/and ordinance of the School/SERI according to the nature of offence, or/and he/she may be proceeded against and shall be liable for prosecution under the relevant provision of the Statutory Law.

SECTION A – Reading

Question 1. **Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below:**

- (1) Suspense was over when my high school results finally came out. But I was upset. I hadn't done as well as I had expected. My father tried to console me. "Why are you worried? You have done very well my dear." "No, I haven't, Baba," I protested, controlling my tears, and wondering if I had disappointed him. "It doesn't really matter," he assured me. "Do you know what I got when I finished high school?" I looked into Baba's face and waited for the answer to his own question. "You know," he told me. "I've never told you this. I got just a third division. But, look at me, I've done quite well." Baba got a third division! I was almost in shock, but the thought of my having done a lot better than that made me realize that I had no reason to complain. I certainly felt better! "Everything is under control!" said Baba, smiling. That was his favourite phrase. Posted in Kolkata, my father was then a senior official in the Indian Railway Service, and an expert in goods traffic operations. He was soon to become a director with the Railway Board. By the time he retired in 1981, he was general manager of the Central Railways. By the time Baba passed away in November 2000, his name had found place in several hearts as well. He was open, easy to know, and full of life. We were extremely close, but I had so much more to learn about him from many things I came to know after his death.
- (2) In September 2000, he was in hospital for treatment of cancer and given just two months to live. When he found out, his reaction was an extremely rational one. He asked me to fetch files from his cupboard, so that he could explain the details of my mother's pension. He also dictated his will from his hospital bed. "Everything is under control!" After Baba's death, Satish, our old family retainer, was inconsolable. We tried to cheer him up. "Your Baba had scolded me only once in all these years!" he cried. Satish pointed to the watch on his left hand. "I had been coming late for work and everyone in the family was complaining about it," said Satish. "Then, one day, your Baba gave me this watch and told me, 'now that you have a watch, you can't be late.'" That was the scolding Satish received. On the fourth day after Baba's death, my sister and I had to perform a ceremony. Since several relatives were expected, we decided to order lunch from a caterer in our locality, reputed for his home cooked food. But, when we went to pay the owner, we got a surprise. He refused to accept any money! "When I wanted to start my catering business, it was your father who lent me money," he told us. It seems Baba never asked for it back. Now, after four or five years, the caterer wanted to repay that debt. Of course, we made him accept the full payment for the fine food and service. "It was Baba's gift and it ought to remain so," I told him.
- (3) Some days later, there was yet another piece of information as we were preparing for the main ceremony. Vikram, my brother drove me to the local market. On recognizing our car, the parking assistant, in his twenties, came running towards us and asked why he had not seen its owner for long. We had to break the news to him and to our utter surprise, he started crying. We were really surprised

by this reaction from a stranger – until the man told us that Baba used to pay his daughter’s school fees and buy her books. It seems, it was on my father’s advice that he’d even started sending the child to school. More than three years after Baba’s death, as we were looking into Baba’s personal things, we came across an old file with Baba’s certificates and I found among them, his high school diploma from 1937, the one he’d told me about 30 years earlier, about the third division that had made no difference in his life or career. It had made me see beyond mere marks and first classes as the main road to success. But there was one more fact. Baba had actually got a first division, a rare achievement in his day. Today, years after his passing, when I think of Baba, I see a man who was able to sympathise with others so easily and touch their lives in such a special way.

Questions:

(a) **On the basis of your understanding of the passage answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate options.** **4 Marks**

P.T.O.

(i) Why was the narrator in tears when her school results came out?

- (a) She did better than she expected.
- (b) She did not do as expected.
- (c) Her Baba had not done well.
- (d) Her Baba had done better than her.

(ii) On knowing the result, how did the narrator’s father react?

- (a) He scolded her.
- (b) He beat her.
- (c) He consoled her.
- (d) He made fun of her.

(iii) Why did the narrator say that she had nothing to complain?

- (a) She had done better than her father.
- (b) She had done as well as her father.
- (c) She had topped in her school.
- (d) She had not worked hard at all.

(iv) Choose the option that is not correct.

- (a) Baba was a senior official in the Indian Railway Service.
- (b) Baba was to become a director with the Railway Board.
- (c) Baba was the general manager of the Central Railways.
- (d) Baba had got a third division in high school.

(b) **Answer the following:**

6 Marks

(i) Why did the narrator’s sick father want her to fetch files from his cupboard?

(ii) Why did Baba buy Satish a watch?

(iii) Why did the caterer not want to take money from the narrator?

(iv) Why were the narrator and her brother surprised on meeting the parking assistant?

(v) Today years after his passing away what has the narrator realized about her Baba?

(vi) What was the story that Baba had invented on the day the narrator’s results were published?

(c) Find words from the passage that mean the same as the following:

2 Marks

(i) tension/anxiety (para 1)

(ii) servant (para 2)

Question 2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

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 using 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.

P.T.O.

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 then drives away with the food still on the roof. We call this absent-minded. The person's good sense or intelligence was temporarily absent. At this level, other than passing inconvenience or embarrassment, no one is injured by the 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 the 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 example of this kind of stupidity is the successful local businessman who tries to have as many office affairs as he can get away with. He risks the loss of his business and his 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 take responsibility for them. The common defence of a person guilty of stupidity is – 'But I didn't think.....' This, however, is not a proper excuse, especially when serious or harmful stupidity is involved.

Questions:

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary.

5 Marks

(b) Write a summary of the passage in not more than 80 words using the notes made and also suggest a suitable title.

3 Marks

Section B – Writing

Question 3. Suman/Suresh has cleared the Pre-Medical Pre-Dental entrance examination. The family is elated at the achievement and they decide to have a get-together for all friends. Draft an informal invitation for the get-together.

5 Marks

OR

Design an attractive Poster on "Odd-Even car rule in Delhi" issued by XYZ Samiti an NGO tationed in Delhi.

- Question 4. Today's children are not yet aware of many opportunities awaiting them after they complete their school education. As an academic counsellor give a talk to the students of St Antony's School on the need for career guidance and how knowledge of the available careers can benefit the youth. Write the speech in 150-200 words. **10 Marks**

OR

You are Rajan/Ramani, reporter of a national daily. A campaign was conducted by various organizations in your city to create awareness among people to conserve water. Write a report in 100-125 words highlighting the activities conducted by local agencies through rain water harvesting and other method to save water face the shortage in the summer months.

- Question 5. The rising prices of essential commodities make life difficult for the common man. As a concerned citizen write an article in 150-200 words on 'Rising Prices'. Suggest solutions to solve this problem. You are Amit/Anita. **10 Marks**

OR

P.T.O.

You are Jaya/Jayant, a resident of Sarita Vihar locality. The Youth Club of your area organised a programme for spreading awareness among the residents regarding peace and communal harmony. Write a report on the programme for publication in a local magazine.

- Question 6. You are Ravikant, sports teacher of Sunshine Public School, Karol Bagh, Delhi. A month ago you placed an order for the supply of a few sports goods. So far you have not received the goods. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the Sales Manager, Olympic Sports F-12 Darya Ganj, Delhi requesting a speedy delivery of the goods. **10 Marks**

OR

You are interested in doing a course in fashion design. For this you want to join NIFT. NIFT holds a competitive examination for admission. Sapphire Academy, Dadar, Mumbai gives coaching for the admission test. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the Director, Sapphire Academy requesting him to provide you with all the necessary information. You are Karan / Kirti, 48 Fort Apartments, Pune.

Section C – Text Book

- Question 7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: **3 Marks**

Although it fall and die that night —
It was the plant and flower of Light.
In small proportions we just beauties see:
And in short measures life may perfect be.

- (a) What does the word 'it' refer to "Why does it die that night '
(b) What is the significance of the word "although" in the above lines?
(c) What message does the poem have for mankind through the above lines"

OR

Freedom' from the insult of dwelling in a puppet world,
Where movements are started through brainless wires,
Repeated through mindless habits,
Where figures wait with patience and obedience for the
Master of the show,
To be stirred into a moment mimicry of life.

- (a) What, according to the poet, is the 'puppet's world'?

- (b) What to his mind is insulting?
(c) Which two expressions indicate that this is a puppet's world"

Question 8. Answer any four of the following questions in 30-40 words each :

3x4 = 12 Marks

- (a) Why does Jo call the skunk's mommy stupid?
(b) How did M. Hamel display his love for the French language?
(c) How are aunt Jennifer's tigers different from her?
(d) Why was the YMCA pool considered safe to learn swimming?
(e) How did Mr. Gupta react when he was asked to gaze into the ring? Why?
(f) How does the map on the wall tempt the slum children?

Question 9. To be grateful is a great virtue of a gentleman. How did the peddler show his gratitude to Edla?

5 Marks

OR

Every teenager must dream big. Yet the dream should also be rooted to the ground. Write a character sketch of Sophie in the light of this remark.

P.T.O.

Question 10. **Answer the following question in 125-150 words.**

10 Marks

Man is a social animal. He can survive but not live in isolation". Do you agree? Justify your answer with reference to the lesson 'The Rat Trap'.

OR

How did the Champaran episode end the sufferings of the share-croppers?

Question 11. **Answer in a paragraph in about 100 words:**

7 Marks

After reading the novel, "The Invisible Man", what opinion do you form of Dr. Kemp?

OR

How did the invisible man meet his associate, Thomas Marvel? What help did he expect from him?

Question 12. **Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each:**

4x2 = 8 Marks

- (a) Why did Maharaja order the dewan to double the land tax?
(b) How did Douglas overcome *the old terror*?
(c) Why was the girl tied to the chair in the story 'Memories of Childhood'?
(d) In the present times do you think a story like the 'Tiger King' is relevant?

END OF THE QUESTION PAPER