

O. P. JINDAL SCHOOL, SAVITRI NAGAR
Half Yearly Examination - (2023 – 2024)

Class: X
Subject: English

MM: 80
Time: 3 Hrs.

(Fifteen Minutes Extra will be given for reading the Question Paper.)

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into three parts: Section A, B & C. All questions are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Section A - Reading Skills [20 Marks]

Q1. Read the passage given below:

1. The average person swallows about half a ton of food a year not counting drink - and though the body is remarkably efficient at extracting just what it needs from this huge mixture, it can only cope up to a point. If you go on eating too much of some things and not enough others, you'll eventually get out of condition and your health will suffer. So think before you start eating. It may look good. It may taste good. Fine! But how much good is it really doing you?
2. What you eat and the way it affects your body depend very much on the kind of person you are. For one thing, the genes you inherit from your parents can determine how your body chemistry (metabolism) copes with particular foods. The tendency to put on weight rather easily, for example, often runs in families - which means that they have to take particular care. And your parents may shape your future in another way. Your upbringing shapes some basic attitudes to food -like whether you have a sweet tooth, nibble between meals, take big mouthfuls or eat chips with everything. And there is your lifestyle. How much you spend on food (time as well as money), how much exercise you get - these can alter the balance between food and fitness. And finally, both your age and your sex may affect this balance. For example, you are more likely to put on weight as you get older, especially if you are a woman. So, everybody's different and the important thing is to know yourself.
3. If you are eating a fairly varied diet, it is just about impossible to go short of proteins, vitamins or minerals. It is likely, too, that you have more than enough fats and carbohydrates. Take proteins for instance. On average, we eat about twice as much protein as we need. Vitamin pills are not likely to help either. A varied diet with plenty of fresh fruit, vegetables and cereals along with some fish, eggs, meat and dairy products will contain more than enough vitamins. Unless you have some

special medical reason, it is a waste of time and money to take vitamin pills. As for minerals, there is no shortage in the average diet and it is useless to have more than you need.

4. Just about everything you eat contains energy- measured as calories; the higher the number of calories, the more energy. But don't make the mistake of thinking that eating extra energy rich foods will make you more energetic. The amount of energy in your daily diet should exactly balance the energy your body-machine burns up. If you eat more than you use, the extra energy is stored as body fat. And this is the big problem.

5. Over hundreds of thousands of years, man's food came mainly from plants. He ate cereals (like wheat), pulses (like beans and peas), vegetables, fruit and nuts. So our ancestors were used to eating the sort of food that contains a lot of fiber. In comparison with our ancestors, the sort of food we eat today contains very little fiber. Our main foods are meat, eggs and dairy products, which contain no fiber at all. Lack of fiber seems to be connected with various disorders of the digestive system. Some experts also believe that lack of fiber may even lead to heart disease. If you are worried about your weight, eating more fiber may actually help you to slim! Food with plenty of fiber like potatoes or bread can be satisfying without giving you too many calories

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below. (6 Marks)

- I. According to the passage, TWO factors that could affect your body system are _____ and _____.
- A. Genes
 - B. Vitamin pills
 - C. Excessive worries
 - D. Attitudes to food
- II. Which of the following statements is NOT true?
- A. A person is likely to put on weight if his father is overweight.
 - B. Eating habits could be shaped by one's parents.
 - C. We eat more proteins than our bodies need.
 - D. The amount of energy in diet should be higher than the energy your body-machine burns up.
- III. If your daily diet is a rather varied one, it is almost impossible that _____
- A. your body store extra body fat.
 - B. your body needs vitamin pills as supplement.
 - C. your body take in more carbohydrate than it can use.
 - D. your body need to take in more fibre.
- IV. Which word can best describe the main purpose of the passage?
- A. Informative

- B. Descriptive
- C. Argumentative
- D. Persuasive

- V. Energy : calories :: mass : _____
- VI. Choose the most suitable title from the given options for section IV & V.
1. It is better to change the bad eating habits
 2. People differ from each other
 3. Extra energy makes us fat
 4. Eating more fiber is important
- A. 1, 2
 - B. 2, 3
 - C. 3, 4
 - D. 1, 3

Answer the following in 30 to 40 words:

(2 X 2 = 4 marks)

- VII. How does the passage illustrate *lifestyle affects your fitness*?
- VIII. State the connection drawn between genes and your metabolism.

Q2. Read the passage given below.

Human just 0.01% of all life but have destroyed 83% of wild mammals - study!

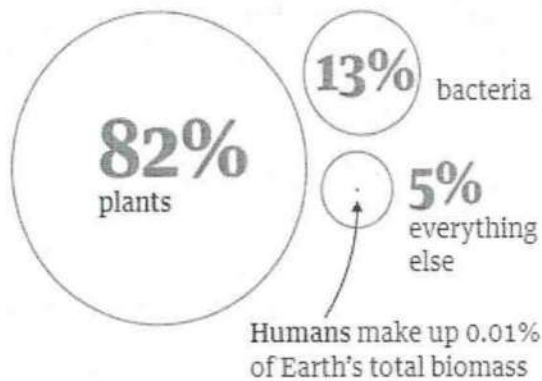
Ground breaking assessment of all life on Earth reveals humanity's surprisingly tiny part in it as well as our disproportionate impact.

1. Humankind is revealed as simultaneously insignificant and utterly dominant in the grand scheme of life on Earth by a ground breaking new assessment of all life on the planet. The world's 7.6 billion people represent just 0.01% of all living things, according to the study. Yet since the dawn of civilization, humanity has caused the loss of 83% of all wild mammals and half of plants, while livestock kept by humans abounds. The new work is the first comprehensive estimate of the weight of every class of living creature and overturns some long-held assumptions.

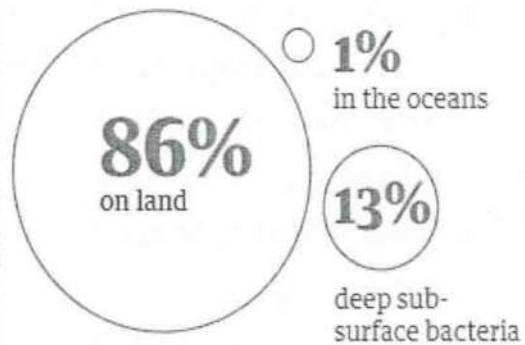
2. Bacteria are indeed a major life form - 13% of everything - but plants overshadow everything, representing 82% of all living matter. All other creatures, from insects to fungi, to fish and animals, make up just 5% of the world's biomass. The transformation of the planet by human activity has led scientists to the brink of declaring a new geological era - the Anthropogenic. One suggested marker for this change are the bones of the domestic chicken, now ubiquitous across the globe.

The total biomass of the human race accounts for just 0.01% of the life on Earth

All life on Earth is made up of ...



... and found in ...



Guardian graphic.

3. The new work reveals that farmed poultry today makes up 70% of all birds on the planet, with just 30% being wild. The picture is even more stark for mammals – 60% of all mammals on Earth are livestock, mostly cattle and pigs, 36% are human and just 4% are wild animals.

4. The destruction of wild habitat for farming, logging and development has resulted in the start of what many scientists consider the sixth mass extinction of life to occur in the Earth's four billion year history. About half the Earth's animals are thought to have been lost in the last 50 years. Despite humanity's supremacy, in weight terms *Homo sapiens* is puny. Viruses alone have a combined weight three times that of humans, as do worms.

5. The researchers calculated the biomass estimates using data from hundreds of studies, which often used modern techniques, such as satellite remote sensing that can scan great areas, and gene sequencing that can unravel the myriad organisms in the microscopic world. They started by assessing the biomass of a class of organisms and then they determined which environments such life could live in across the world to create a global total. They used carbon as the key measure and found all life contains 550bn tones of the element. The researchers acknowledge that substantial uncertainties remain in particular estimates, especially for bacteria deep underground, but say the work presents a useful overview.

6. Paul Falkowski, at Rutgers University in the US and not part of the research team, said: "The study is, to my knowledge, the first comprehensive analysis of the biomass distribution of all organisms – including viruses – on Earth. There are two major takeaways from this paper," he said. "First, humans are extremely efficient in exploiting natural resources. Humans have culled, and in some cases eradicated, wild mammals for food or pleasure in virtually all continents. Second, the biomass of terrestrial plants overwhelmingly dominates on a global scale – and most of that biomass is in the form of wood."

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below. (6 Marks)

- I. The given passage analyses _____
- II. The entire population of Homosapiens on earth constitutes _____ of all living things.(para1-2)
- A. >1%
 - B. <1%
 - C. =1%
 - D. not mentioned in the passage

III. Major share of Earth's biomass are found on _____. (para2-3)

IV. According to the scientists, the sixth mass extinction of life on earth will occur as a result of _____ (para3-4)

V. Which among the following sentences does not confirm to the meaning of the word 'puny' in the above passage? (para 4)

- A. My car only has a puny little engine.
- B. He was a puny individual who had high opinions of himself
- C. There is a lot of puny in his research paper.
- D. I reported a bully for calling shorter kids 'puny.

VI. The modern technique that helped in revealing the biomass of microscopic organisms in this research paper is _____. (para 4-5)

Answer the following in 30 to 40 words: (2 X 2 = 4 marks)

VII. What are the two major ideas that come out of this research paper? (para 5-6)

VIII. Mention a shortfall that the researchers acknowledge in this study? (Para 5-6)

Section B - Grammar & Writing Skills - [20 Marks]

Q3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed. (10 marks)

I. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option.

Shakespeare dramas that are appealing to the people of all ages.

- A. wrote
- B. had written
- C. had been writing
- D. has written

II. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report: Climate change could accelerated many pathogenic diseases.

	ERROR	CORRECTION
A	diseases	disease
B	accelerated	accelerate
C	many	much
D	could	need to

III. She had already begun eating her dinner by the time I _____ there.

- A. reached
- B. had reached
- C. was reaching
- D. had been reaching

IV. Read the given sentence from a recipe review article. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence. This delightful recipe must keep your hunger pangs at bay with its balanced spices and oriental flavour. Use the given format for your response

Error	Correction

V. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line from a magazine report on a study conducted on "How to lose weight in 3 days".

Studies have shown that carbohydrates hold on to several water molecules in your body which _____ cause weight gain or bloating.

- A. Need B. Ought to C. May D. should

VI. Select the appropriate option and fill in the blank.

When Hemant was at Chirag's flat yesterday, Hemant asked if he _____ use the phone.

- A. can B. may C. must D. could

VII. He always _____ late for the meeting every day.

- A. come B. comes C. came D. coming

VIII. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report: Last week a child was not allowed to board the plane at Ranchi airport.

	ERROR	CORRECTION
A	Child	children
B	last	previous
C	the	a
D	at	in

IX. I got up and went out to the veranda for _____ air.

- A. none B. little C. the little D. a little

X. They decide to take away as _____ blankets from his house as they could.

- A. neither B. either C. many D. much

XI. Identify the error in the given sentence; Not only we, but also our parents wants us to win.

Use the given format for your response

Error	Correction

XII. One of the main reasons for elephant poaching are the profits received from selling the ivory tusks. Use the given format for your response

Error	Correction

Q4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

(5 marks)

A. You are Polly Chawla, a resident of Worli Park, Mumbai. You recently saw a documentary about the youth of the nation titled, 'A Country in Good Hands'. Write a letter of appreciation to the Editor of The Youth Times, in not more than 120 words, drawing her attention to the good that the youngsters around you are doing. Suggest ways in which they can further contribute to the betterment of society.

OR

B. You are Rakesh Mehta, Secretary of Rainbow Apartments, Marathalli, Bangalore. A major pipeline supplying water to your apartment complex burst recently. Repairs are expected to be time consuming and the available water is insufficient to meet the requirements of residents and staff within the premises. Write a letter to the Area Development Officer, Marathalli Area, Bangalore, in not more than 120 words, requesting him to complete the repair work at the earliest, drawing attention to the difficulties faced by the people and the challenges of procuring water from outside.

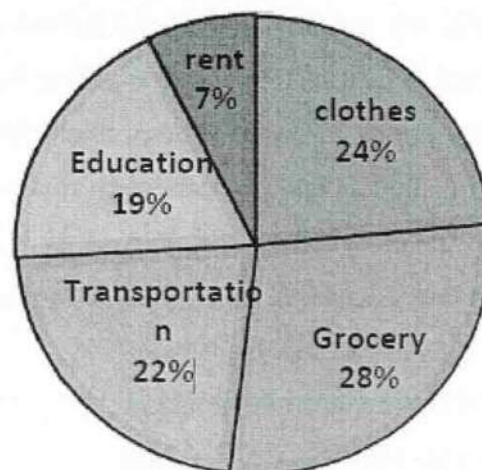
Q5. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

(5 marks)

A. The given pie chart represents the amount of money spent by a family on different items in a month. Write an analytical paragraph using the information given in the chart. (100-120 words)

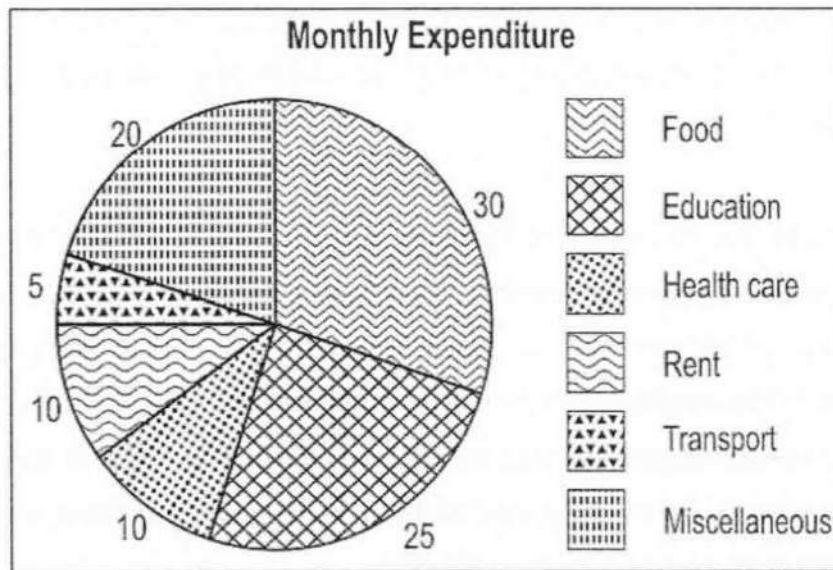
MONTHLY EXPENSES

■ clothes ■ Grocery ■ Transportation ■ Education ■ rent



OR

B. The monthly expenditure of a family is represented in the pie chart shown below.



Write an analytical paragraph in about 100-120 words, analyzing the information in the pie chart to support your stand on how the family is using the money wisely.

Section C - Literature - [40 Marks]

Q6. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE, of the two given: (5marks)

Let me put it more clearly, since no one will believe that a thirteen-year-old girl is completely alone in the world. And I'm not. I have loving parents and a sixteen-year-old sister, and there are about thirty people I can call friends. I have a family, loving aunts and a good home. No, on the surface I seem to have everything, except my one true friend. All I think about when I'm with friends is having a good time. I can't bring myself to talk about anything but ordinary everyday things. We don't seem to be able to get any closer, and that's the problem. Maybe it's my fault that we don't confide in each other. In any case, that's just how things are, and unfortunately they're not liable to change. This is why I've started the diary. (From the Diary of Anne Frank)

I. Why was Anne Frank disturbed even when she had loving parents, relatives and friends?

- A. because she didn't have any classmate.
- B. because she didn't have any neighbour.
- C. because she didn't have any true friend.
- D. none of the above

II. Why did Anne decide to write a diary?

III. To confide in somebody is to _____

- A. tell somebody other's secrets or personal information.

- B. tell somebody your secrets or personal information.
- C. tell somebody about God
- D. none of the above

IV. Find the word that means the same as 'aloof'.

- A. happy
- B. lucky
- C. alone
- D. liable

V. Anne has everything except _____

- A. mother
- B. aunt
- C. a true friend
- D. grandmother

OR

I was still a thief when I met Anil. And though only 15, I was an experienced and fairly successful hand. Anil was watching a wrestling match when I approached him. He was about 25; a tall, lean fellow; and he looked easy-going, kind and simple enough for my purpose. I hadn't had much luck of late and thought I might be able to get into the young man's confidence.

"You look a bit of a wrestler yourself," I said. A little flattery helps in making friends.

"So do you," he replied, which put me off for a moment because at that time I was rather thin.

"Well," I said modestly, "I do wrestle a bit."

"What's your name?"

"Hari Singh," I lied. I took a new name every month. That kept me ahead of the police and my former employers.

(The Thief's Story)

I. I might be able to get into the young man's confidence.

Based on the line above, we can say that Hari wanted to _____.

- A. reduce Anil's confidence to dupe him
- B. impress Anil with his confidence
- C. gain Anil's trust to exploit him
- D. trust Anil with protecting him

II. Which of these sentences shows the correct usage of the word 'modestly' as used in the extract?

- A. The profits of our company have grown modestly over the last year.
- B. Ryan always modestly shrugs off the compliments from people.
- C. We're looking to buy a modestly furnished apartment.
- D. It's not advisable to dress modestly during winters.

III. Which of these about the narrator CANNOT be inferred from the extract?

- A. He was a lean fellow.
- B. He was fond of wrestling.
- C. He was good at making friends.
- D. He had ways to avoid being arrested.

IV. Hari had _____ before encountering Anil.

- A. just been released from jail
- B. tried to pull off a big robbery
- C. had a successful career as a thief
- D. been unsuccessful for some time

V. He was about 25- a tall, lean fellow – and he looked easy-going, kind and simple enough for my purpose. The reason that the narrator says the above line is because he felt that _____.

- A. it would be easy for him to manipulate Anil
- B. he could learn a lot about wrestling from Anil
- C. Anil could help him avoid being caught by the police
- D. it would be easy for him to convince Anil to cook for him

Q7. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE, of the two given:

(5marks)

But he's locked in a concrete cell,
His strength behind bars,
Stalking the length of his cage,
Ignoring visitors.
He hears the last voice at night,
The patrolling cars,
And stares with his brilliant eyes
At the brilliant stars

I. The fact that the tiger is 'stalking the length of his cage' tells us that he is _____

- A. restless
- B. reckless
- C. resilient
- D. reverent.

II. What is the rhyme scheme of the given stanzas?

- A. abcb; abcb
- B. abcb; abcd
- C. abcd; abcd
- D. abcd; abcb

III. These stanzas bring out the contrast between _____

- A. zoos and cities.
- B. strength and weakness.
- C. freedom and captivity.
- D. visitors and patrolling cars.

IV. What is the caged tiger NOT likely to say to the visitors?

- A. "Stop staring"
- B. "Set me free"
- C. "Join me"
- D. "Go away".

V. The tiger's 'brilliant eyes' reveal that he

- A. hopes to be free and in the wild, someday.
- B. is looked after well and is nourished and healthy.
- C. enjoys staring at the bright stars each night.

D. is well-rested and hence, wide-awake.

OR

I saw it go merrily bouncing, down the street, and then
Merrily over – there it is in the water!
No use to say 'O there are other balls':
An ultimate shaking grief fixes the boy
As he stands rigid, trembling, staring down
All his young days into the harbour where
His ball went.

I. The poet uses the ball as a symbol of the boy's _____

- A. sense of adventure
B. carefree childhood days.
C. ability to bounce back.
C. extended family.

II. The poet feels that there is no point consoling the boy as _____

- A. It would give him false hope.
B. He might demand for a new ball.
C. It might distress him further.
C. Whatever he has lost is irretrievable.

III. The word 'harbour' DOES NOT have a meaning similar to _____

- A. port
B. pier
C. dock
D. cargo

IV. 'Merrily over – there it is in the water!' The dash here is meant to convey

- A. some familiar experience.
B. a feeling of excitement.
C. a sense of unexpected interruption.
D. some thoughtful moments.

V. The word that DOES NOT indicate the physical manifestation of sorrow in the boy is _____

- A. worthless
B. shaking
C. trembling
D. rigid

Q8. Answer any four of the following questions in 40 - 50 words each: (4x3=12 marks)

I. What is the theme of the poem – 'Amanda'?

II. "Every cloud has a silver lining"- Connect and explain it with reference to the poem "Dust of Snow".

III. Depths of oppression creates heights of character. Justify the statement on the basis of your understanding of the lesson "A Long Walk to Freedom-Nelson Mandela".

IV. How can we distinguish between the crocodile and the hyena? How deceptive are their expressions? (How to tell wild animals)

V. What were Lencho's feelings when the hailstorm stopped?

Q9. Answer any two of the following questions in 40 - 50 words each: (2x3=6 marks)

I. 'Love and affection can transform even a criminal'. Explain how it is proved true in the case of Hari Singh.

II. By mentioning about the balcony what did Ausable intend to do to Max?

III. Horace Danby was smart, but the lady in the red was smarter. Give examples from the story 'A Question of Trust' to prove this.

Q10. "In faith there is enough light for those who want to believe and enough shadow to blind those who don't". Validate the statement as per your understanding of the lessons 'A Letter to God' and 'The Black Aeroplane'. (100 - 120 words) **(6 marks)**

OR

The poet presents two possibilities about the end of the world. Which one seems to be more convincing than the other? (Fire and Ice)(100 - 120 words)

Q11. Mr. Herriot, a veterinary surgeon is tactful as well as full of common sense. Do you agree? Justify your answer giving instances from the story you have read. (100 - 120 words) **(6 marks)**

OR

Sometimes appearances can be very deceptive. How does this statement prove true in the lesson 'The Midnight Visitor'? (100 - 120 words)
