

CLASS : 12th (Sr. Secondary) Code No. 4301

Series : SS-M/2019

Roll No.

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SET : A

ENGLISH (Core)
[For all Groups I, II, III]
ACADEMIC/OPEN

(Only for Fresh/Re-appear Candidates)

Time allowed : 3 hours] [Maximum Marks : 80

- *Please make sure that the printed pages in this question paper are **16** in number and it contains **13** questions.*
- *The **Code No.** and **Set** on the right side of the question paper should be written by the candidate on the front page of the answer-book.*
- *Before beginning to answer a question, its Serial Number must be written.*
- *Don't leave blank page/ pages in your answer-book.*
- *Except answer-book, no extra sheet will be given. Write to the point and do not strike the written answer.*
- *Candidates must write their Roll Number on the question paper.*
- *Before answering the question, ensure that you have been supplied the correct and complete question paper, **no claim in this regard, will be entertained after examination.***

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General Instructions :

- (i) *This question paper is divided into **four** Sections : **A, B, C** and **D**.*
- (ii) **All the sections are compulsory.**
- (iii) *Attempt all the parts of a question together.*
- (iv) *Stick to the word-limit wherever prescribed.*

SECTION – A
(Reading Skills)

[M. M. : 9

1. Read the following passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

New Year is the time for resolution. Mentally, at least most of us could compile formidable lists of 'do's and don'ts'. The same old favourites recur year in and year out with monotonous regularity. We resolve to get-up early each morning, eat healthy food, exercise, be nice to people we don't like and find more time for our parents. Past experience has taught us that certain accomplishments are beyond attainment. If we remain deep rooted liars, it is only because we have so often experienced the frustration that results from failure. Most of us fail in our efforts, at self-improvement because our schemes are too ambitious and we never have time to carry them out. We also 'make the fundamental error of announcing our resolution to everybody so that we look even more foolish when we slip back into our bad old ways. Aware of these pitfalls, this year I attempted to keep my resolutions to myself. I limited myself to two modest ambitions, to do physical exercise every morning and to read more in the evening. An overnight party on New Year's Eve provided me with a good excuse for not carrying out either of these new resolutions on the first day of the year, but on the second, I applied myself diligently to the task. The daily exercise lasted only eleven minutes and I proposed to do them

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early in the morning before anyone had got up. The self-discipline required to drag myself out of bed eleven minutes earlier than usual was considerable. Nevertheless, I managed to creep down into the living room for two days before anyone found me out. After jumping about on the carpet and twisting the human frame into uncomfortable positions, I sat down at the breakfast table in an exhausted condition. It was this that betrayed me. The next morning the whole family trooped in to watch the performance. That was really unsettling but I fended off the taunts and jibes of the whole family good-humouredly and soon everybody got used to the idea. However, my enthusiasm waned. The time I spent at exercises gradually diminished. Little by little the eleven minutes fell to zero. By January 10th, I was back to where I had started from. I argued that if I spent less time exhausting myself at exercises in the morning, I would keep my mind fresh for reading when I got home from work. Resisting the hypnotising effect of television, I sat, in my room for a few evenings with my eyes glued to a book. One night, however, feeling cold and lonely, I went downstairs and sat in front of the television pretending to read. That proved to be my undoing, for I soon got back to the old bad habit of dozing off in front of the screen. I still haven't given up my resolution to do more reading. In fact, I have just bought a book entitled 'How to Read a Thousand Words a Minute'. Perhaps it will solve my problem, but I just have not had time to read it.

Questions : 1 × 4 = 4

- (i) What were the writer's two resolutions ?
- (a) Physical exercise in the morning
 - (b) Read more in the evening
 - (c) Both (a) and (b)
 - (d) Not to make more resolutions

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- (ii) How much time did the daily exercise last initially ?
(a) 10 minutes
(b) 11 minutes
(c) 5 minutes
(d) 8 minutes
- (iii) How many days did the narrator continue his resolution ?
(a) 8 days
(b) 9 days
(c) 10 days
(d) 7 days
- (iv) Which book did the narrator buy ?
(a) How to read a thousand words a minute
(b) How to be a good reader
(c) How to be firm on your resolutions
(d) The importance of exercising

OR

Many of us believe that 'small' means 'insignificant'. We believe that small actions and choices do not have much impact on our lives. We think that it is only the big things, the big actions and the big decisions that really count. But when you look at the lives of all great people, you will see that they built their character through small decisions, small choices and small actions that they performed every day. They transformed their lives through a step-by-step or day-by-day approach. They nurtured and nourished their good habits and chipped away at their bad habits, one step at a time. It was their small day-to-day decisions that added up to make tremendous difference in the long run. Indeed, in matters of personal growth and

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character building, there is no such thing as an overnight success.

Growth always occurs through a sequential series of stages. There is an organic process to growth. When we look at children growing up, we can see this process at work; the child first learns to crawl, then to stand and walk, and finally to run. The same is true in the natural world. The soil must first be tilled, and then the seed must be sowed. Next, it must be nurtured with enough water and sunlight, and only then will it grow, bear fruit and finally ripen and be ready to eat.

Gandhi understood this organic process and used this universal law of nature to his benefit. Gandhi grew in small ways, in his day-to-day affairs. He did not wake up one day and find himself to be the "Mahatama". In fact, there was nothing much in his early life that showed signs of greatness. But from his mid-twenties onwards, he deliberately and consistently attempted to change himself, reform himself and grow in some small way every day. Day-by-day, hour-by-hour, he risked failure, experimented and learnt from mistakes. In small and large situations alike, he took up rather than avoid responsibility. People have always marvelled at the effortless way in which Gandhi could accomplish the most difficult tasks. He displayed great deal of self-mastery and discipline that was amazing. These things did not come easily to him. Years of practice and disciplined training went into making his successes possible. Very few saw his struggles, fears, doubts and anxieties, or his inner efforts to overcome them. They saw the victory, but not the struggle. This is a common factor in the lives of all great people: they exercised their freedoms and choices in small ways that made great impact on their lives and their environment.

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- (iv) What is done by great people to transform their lives ?
- (a) They approach life on a day-by-day basis
 - (b) They build character in small ways
 - (c) They believe in performing everyday
 - (d) All of these

- 2.** Read the following passage carefully and make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Supply an appropriate title also : 4 + 1 = 5
- The small village of Somnathpur contains an extraordinary temple, built around 1268 A.D. by the Hoyasalas of Karnataka – one of the most prolific temple-builders. Belur and Helebid are among their better-known works. While these suffered during the invasions of the 14th century, the Somnathpur temple stands more or less intact in near-original condition. This small temple captivates the beauty and vitality of its detailed sculpture, covering almost every inch of the walls, pillars and even ceilings. It has three shikharas and stands on a star-shaped, raised platform with 24 edges. The outer walls have a profusion of detailed carvings: the entire surface run over by carved plaques of stone. There were vertical panels covered by exquisite figures of gods and goddesses with many incarnations being depicted. There were nymphs too, some carrying an ear of maize – a symbol of plenty and prosperity. The elaborate ornamentation, the very characteristic of Hoyasala sculptures, was a remarkable feature. On closer look – and it is worth it – the series of friezes on the outer walls revealed intricately carved caparisoned (covered decorative cloth) elephants, charging horsemen, stylized flowers, warriors, musicians, crocodiles, and swans. The temple was actually commissioned by Soma Dandanayaka or

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Somnath (he named the village after himself), the minister of the Hoyasala king, Narasimha, the third. The temple was built to house three versions of Krishna. The inner center of the temple was the Kalyana Mandapa. Leading from here 'were three corridors each ending in a shrine, one for each kind of Krishna – Venugopala, Janardana and Prasanna Keshava, though only two remain in their original form. In the, darkness of the sanctum sanctorum, I tried to discern the different images. The temple's sculptural perfection is amazing and it includes the doors of the temple and the three elegantly carved towers.

SECTION – B
(Grammar/Writing Skills) [M. M. : 26

- 3.** Attempt any *two* from each sub-part :
- (a) Change the form of narration : $1 \times 2 = 2$
- (i) "I have read a new novel by R. K. Narayan", said Monika.
- (ii) "Do you wish to open an account ?" the manager asked the customer.
- (iii) "Bravo! Well done!", he said.
- (b) Supply articles wherever necessary : $1 \times 2 = 2$
- (i) We buy oil by the litre.
- (ii) great Shakespeare committed grammatical errors.
- (iii) rich should help the poor.
- (c) Fill in the blanks with suitable modal auxiliary verbs given in the brackets : $1 \times 2 = 2$
- (i) She expects that her son return.
(may/can)

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- (ii) She advised that I curtail expenditure. (should/can)
- (iii) She not have left alone as it was raining heavily. (can/must)
- (d) Change the voice : $1 \times 2 = 2$
- (i) He encourages me.
- (ii) Please come soon.
- (iii) It is impossible to do.
- (e) Use the correct form of verbs given in the brackets : $1 \times 2 = 2$
- (i) More men than one absent today. (was/were)
- (ii) Neither of the two boys done it. (has/have)
- (iii) What evidence these acts ? (is/are)

4. Attempt any **two** of the following : $3 \times 2 = 6$

- (a) The Residents' Welfare Association, Model Town, Narnaul is organising a 'Diwali Fete' in the locality. As the President of the Association, draft a notice in not more than **50** words informing the residents about the same. Give other essential detail too.
- (b) You are Rama/Radha, General Manager of Hotel Grand, Rohtak. You need a receptionist for your hotel. Draft an advertisement in not more than **50** words to be published in "The Tribune", giving all the relevant details.

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- (v) Who was M. Hamel ?
- (a) the narrator's neighbour
 - (b) the narrator's father
 - (c) the narrator's teacher
 - (d) the narrator's friend

OR

The makeup room had the look of a hair-cutting salon with lights at all angles around half a dozen large mirrors. They were all incandescent lights, so you can imagine the fiery misery of those subjected to makeup. The makeup department was first headed by a Bengali who became too big for the studio and left. He was succeeded by a Maharashtrian who was assisted by a Dharwar Kannadiga, an Andhra, a Madras Indian Christian, an Anglo-Burmese and the usual local Tamils. All this shows that there was a great deal of national integration long before A.I.R and Doordarshan began broadcasting programmes on national integration.

Questions :

1 × 5 = 5

- (i) Name the chapter from which this passage has been taken :
- (a) Indigo
 - (b) Poets and Pancakes
 - (c) The Interview
 - (d) Going Places

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OR

How did Douglas develop an aversion to water ?

9. Answer any **five** of the following : $2 \times 5 = 10$

- (i) How was M. Hamel's class different the day Franz went late to school ?
- (ii) How is Mukesh's attitude to his situation different from that of his family ?
- (iii) Why did Douglas go to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire ?
- (iv) Why didn't the stranger tell the ironmaster that he was not Nils Olof ?
- (v) Why did Gandhiji go to Lucknow in December 1916 ? Who met him there and why ?
- (vi) Why did Sophie wish to become an actress ?
- (vii) What was the autograph riddle ? Could it be solved ?

SECTION - C

(B) Main Reader [Poetry] [M. M. : 11

10. Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow :

*Driving from my parent's home to
Cochin last Friday morning,
I saw my mother, beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face ashen like that
of a corpse and realised with pain*

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