

**MODEL QUESTION PAPER-2**  
**(2020-21)**  
**ENGLISH (CORE)**  
**GRADE XII**

**Time Allowed: 3 hours**

**M.M. : 80**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

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

**PART - A**  
**(READING)**

**[40 MARKS]**  
**[20 MARKS]**

**1. Read the passage given below and answer any ten questions: (10)**

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 a 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 the 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.
4. 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 sympathize with others so easily and touch their lives in such a special way.
- (a) Why was the narrator in tears when her school results came out? **(1)**  
 (i) She did better than she expected. (ii) She did not do as expected.  
 (iii) Her Baba had not done well. (iv) Her Baba had done better than her.
- (b) On knowing the result, how did the narrator's father react? **(1)**  
 (i) He scolded her. (ii) He beat her.  
 (iii) He consoled her. (iv) He made fun of her.
- (c) Why did the narrator say she had nothing to complain? **(1)**  
 (i) She had done better than her father. (ii) She had done as well as her father.  
 (iii) She had topped in her school. (iv) She had not worked hard at all.
- (d) Choose the option which is not correct: **(1)**  
 (i) Baba was a senior official in the Indian Railway Service.  
 (ii) Baba was to become a director with the Railway Board.  
 (iii) Baba was the general manager of the Central Railways.  
 (iv) Baba had got a third division in high school.
- (e) What was Baba's favourite phrase: **(1)**  
 (i) It's all right. (ii) Everything is OK.  
 (iii) Cool. (iv) Everything is under control.
- (f) Why did Baba scold Satish? **(1)**  
 (i) For not doing the work properly. (ii) For untidiness.  
 (iii) For being late (iv) For being punctual.
- (g) Why was Baba admitted to hospital? **(1)**  
 (i) Due to fever. (ii) To treat cancer.  
 (iii) For routine check-ups. (iv) Because of heart-attack.
- (h) Why did the caterer not charge any money from the narrator? **(1)**  
 (i) He didn't want to trouble them. (ii) He could collect that later.  
 (iii) He wanted to marry the narrator. (iv) He wanted to repay the debt.

- (i) Who was Vikram? **(1)**  
 (i) Baba's colleague. (ii) Office boy. (iii) Parking assistant. (iv) Caterer.
- (j) What kind of a man Baba was? **(1)**  
 (i) He could sympathize with others. (ii) He was carefree.  
 (iii) He was indifferent to other people. (iv) He was a miser.
- (k) How did Baba help Vikram? **(1)**  
 (i) Baba lent him money. (ii) Baba paid his daughter's school fee.  
 (iii) Baba bought him clothes. (iv) Baba gave him a cycle

**2. Read the passage given below and answer any ten questions : **(10)****

- As dusk falls the neon lights of the jewellery shops in Bowbazaar come alive but the lights have no effect on the face of Mahadeo Yadav who is seated on the footrest of his rickshaw that is parked by the road, feeling very sad. He is sitting on his feet, hugging his knees to keep himself warm in the biting cold, so weakened and lifeless as if he had been dead for days without anyone noticing.
  - Who would after all notice a rickshaw puller, to check whether he is breathing or not? Yet when the same rickshaw puller goes about his work pulling his rickshaw like a horse, he becomes the most noticed man in Calcutta. He makes a great subject for photographers, writers and film-makers. He is the symbol of poor Calcutta. Many a famous actor has pulled the rickshaw in films set in the city.
  - Calcutta is said to have about 6000 rickshaw pullers running on its roads, running mostly in its old neighbourhoods. They have something in common apart from their poverty. All of them come from the countryside. All of them wear the lungi to work, perhaps, for better movement. Almost all of them are elderly; I am yet to see a young man hand pulling a rickshaw. It can be a sad sight to watch a man almost as old as your father struggling his way through the roads dressed only in a vest and lungi and often barefoot.
  - Mahadeo Yadav, the rickshaw puller is in his seventies and has been pulling the same rickshaw in and around Bowbazaar for fifty years. For him fifty years, half a century is not an achievement, but merely the time that has passed ever since he came to Calcutta to earn a living.
  - He lives all alone in Calcutta, in a room in a nearby lane, paying a monthly rent of fifty rupees. He is out with his rickshaw between three in the afternoon and ten at night, sometimes earning sixty or seventy rupees a day and sometimes nothing. Every month without fail he sends Rs.300 to his wife back home, and once every year visits her. "I will pull the rickshaw as long as I can" he says, "this is my only source of livelihood. These days I tire easily. Sometimes my feet hurt and sometimes my back. But do I have a choice?" He answers all my questions without looking at me even once, but continued to stare ahead blankly, his arms folded around his knees. I take a good look at his rickshaw: the two - the rickshaw and the rickshaw puller- make quite a pair.
- (a) A rickshaw puller is noticed only when he - **(1)**  
 (i) acts in a film. (ii) becomes a subject for photographers.  
 (iii) sits all alone. (iv) is old and tired.
- (b) Pick out the statement which is not true. **(1)**  
 (i) Most rickshaw pullers are old.  
 (ii) The rickshaw pullers earn very little.  
 (iii) Many renowned actors are rickshaw pullers.  
 (iv) They are neglected by people.

- (c) Mahadeo Yadav is in his - **(1)**  
 (i) 50s (ii) 60s (iii) 70s (iv) 80s
- (d) Mahadeo Yadav visits his wife - **(1)**  
 (i) Once a year (ii) Twice a year (iii) Thrice a year (iv) Four times a year
- (e) How much money does Mahadeo Yadav send his wife? **(1)**  
 (i) Rs. 200 (ii) Rs. 300 (iii) Rs. 400 (iv) Rs. 500
- (f) How much does Mahadeo Yadav pay as rent? **(1)**  
 (i) Rs. 50 (ii) Rs. 60 (iii) Rs. 70 (iv) Rs. 80
- (g) What is the commonality among the rikshaw-pullers? **(1)**  
 (i) They are all alone. (ii) They have no family.  
 (iii) They all have a rikshaw. (iv) They are all from countryside.
- (h) What does 50 yrs. mean for Mahadeo Yadav? **(1)**  
 (i) An achievement (ii) Time spent (iii) Family & friends (iv) Children
- (i) What does a rickshaw puller signify for Calcutta? **(1)**  
 (i) Ugliness (ii) Compassion (iii) Poverty (iv) Simplicity
- (j) What is the common attire of the rickshaw pullers? **(1)**  
 (i) Kurta & Pyjama (ii) Dhoti & Kurta (iii) Shorts & T-Shirt (iv) Dhoti & Vest
- (k) The tone of the passage is- **(1)**  
 (i) Positive (ii) Negative (iii) Optimistic (iv) Critical

**(LITERATURE)****(20 MARKS)****3. Attempt any two passages out of the three.****(1 × 8 = 8)**

- (a) From the beginning, however, I have 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 a 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.
- (i) Where did his father take him?  
 (A) Y.M.C.A. pool (B) California (C) Yakima (D) Maches
- (ii) What impact did this incident have on him?  
 (A) He cried. (B) He enjoyed it.  
 (C) He developed a dislike to water (D) He never went back to the pool.
- (iii) What happened to him there?  
 (A) He was knocked down (B) He was caressed  
 (C) He was strangulated (D) He drowned
- (iv) What was his father's reaction?  
 (A) He cried (B) He laughed (C) He shouted (D) He was shocked
- (b) The Ramsjo Ironworks which are now closed down, were not so long ago, a large plant, with smelter, rolling mill and forge. In the summertime long lines of heavily loaded barges and scows slid down the canal, which led to a large inland lake, and in the wintertime the roads near the mill were black from all the coal dust which sifted down from the big charcoal crates.
- (i) What is Ramsjo Ironworks?  
 (A) A large plant (B) A mill (C) A shop (D) A milk booth
- (ii) What are barges and scows?  
 (A) Round boats (B) Oval boats  
 (C) Flat-bottomed boats (D) Diamond-shaped boats

(iii) How would business be done in summertime?  
 (A) By air (B) By water (C) By road (D) By taxi

(iv) The style of the passage can be called-  
 (A) Narrative (B) Pedagogic (C) Florid (D) Descriptive

(c) Now Sadao remembered the wound and with his expert fingers he began to search for it. Blood flowed freshly at his touch. On the right side of his lower back Sadao saw that a gun wound had been reopened. The flesh was blackened with powder. Sometime, not many days ago, the man had been shot and had not been tended. It was bad chance that the rock had struck the wound.

(i) Who was the man lying there?

(A) A POW (B) A doctor  
 (C) A Japanese (D) A fisherman

(ii) Why was the flesh black?

(A) Due to coal (B) Due to soil  
 (C) Due to gun powder (D) Due to tar

(iii) Where was the gun wound on his body?

(A) On chest (B) On right arm (C) On back (D) On lower back

(iv) Who has authored this story?

(A) Peach Buck (B) S. Buck (C) Peal S. Buck (D) Pearl S, Buck

4. Read the stanza and answer the following questions:

(1 × 4 = 4)

**And such too is the grandeur of the dooms**

**We have imagined for the mighty dead;**

**All lovely tales that we have heard or read;**

**An endless fountain of immortal drink,**

**Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.**

(i) What have we imagined for the mighty dead?

(A) Doom (B) Grandeur (C) Death (D) Story

(ii) In this stanza, beauty has been associated with-

(A) Tales (B) Drink (C) Death (D) Heaven

(iii) Which is the figure of speech used in the second last line?

(A) Simile (B) Metaphor (C) Pun (D) Alliteration

(iv) What does the word brink mean?

(A) Brine (B) Edge (C) Top (D) Door

OR

**It would be an exotic moment**

**without rush, without engines,**

**we would all be together**

**in a sudden strangeness.**

(I) What will create an exotic moment?

(A) Noise (B) Talking (C) Rush (D) Silence

(ii) The word exotic means-

(A) Unusual (B) Similar (C) Simple (D) Bad

(iii) Which is the figure of speech used in the last line?

(A) Simile (B) Metaphor (C) Pun (D) Alliteration

(iv) What are engines symbolic of?

(A) Train (B) Noise (C) Leadership (D) Continuity

5. Answer any 8 of the following 10 questions:

- i) What would be the usual information displayed on the notice board?
- ii) What is Mukesh's dream?
- (iii) Why was Y.M.C.A. pool safer?
- (iv) How did the father convince Edla about tramp's manners?
- (v) Why has Shukla been called an irresolute person?
- (vi) What did the Ironmaster want to do when the real identity of the pedlar was disclosed?
- (vii) How much did the wizard ask the Skunk for changing the smell?
- (viii) What is aunt Jennifer doing?
- (ix) What are we doing every morrow?
- (x) What happens when we listen to the bees for a long time?

**PART-B**  
**WRITING**

**[40 MARKS]**  
**[16 MARKS]**

6. You require a teacher to teach Maths and Science to your son at home who is in Class 10. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words giving all your requirements. You are Arun/ Aruna. Contact no. 93\*\*\*\*\*. (3)

**OR**

Sarvodaya Education Society, a charitable organization is coming to your school to distribute books among the needy students. As Head Boy/ Head Girl, Sunrise Public School, Surat, write a notice in about 50 words asking such students to drop the lists of books they need in the box kept outside the Principal's office. You are Navtej/ Navita. (3)

7. Draft a formal invitation to be sent to your friends and relatives on the occasion of your son's marriage. (3)

**OR**

Write a formal reply to Mrs. & Mr. Anil Jain declining their invitation to dinner on their 50th Wedding Anniversary on 2nd March 2016. (3)

8. You live in a crowded area in Mumbai. Unauthorised parking of vehicles in your area is causing a lot of inconvenience to the locals. Write a letter to the Police Commissioner of the District complaining against this practice. You are Rohan/ Rohini of Sakinaka, Mumbai. (5)

**OR**

Suppose yourself to be Srikant/ Sreeja of A-45 Tilak Nagar, Tonk road, Jaipur. You saw an advertisement in the Times of India for the post of a PGT Maths in Sanskar Public School, Alwar. Draft a letter for the same.

9. India is a tourists' dream destination. Give your views on the tourism potential of India in an article in 150-200 words. You are Navtej/ Navita. (5)

**OR**

You are Anu/ Anupam, a reporter with The Hindu. You have heard that a doctor at AIIMS died in mysterious conditions. You rush to the site and write a report on it in 100-125 words. (5)

**(LITERATURE)****(24 MARKS)****10. Read the following questions and answer any five of them in 30-40 words each:****(2 × 5 = 10)**

- (a) Who occupied the back benches in the class room on the day of the last lesson? Why?
- (b) Why is Rajkumar Shukla described as being 'resolute'?
- (c) What were the poet's feelings as she drove to Kochi airport?
- (d) Whom did M. Hamel blame for Franz's inability to answer his question?
- (e) What lesson did Douglas learn when he got rid of his fear of water?
- (f) Why did Douglas' mother recommend that he should learn swimming at the YMCA swimming pool?

**11. Read the following questions and answer any two in 30-40 words each:**

- (a) Which do you think is a better ending of Roger Skunk's story, Jo's or her father's?
- (b) What could the Governor have done to securely bring Evans back to the prison from the 'Golden Lion'?
- (c) How did the Governor, Oxford Prison describe Evans to the Secretary Examination Board?

**12. Answer any one of the following questions in 120-150 words:**

What did the French teacher tell his students in his last French lesson? What impact did it have on them?

**OR**

"Freedom from fear is more important than legal justice for the poor." Explain with reference to the story "Indigo."

**13. Answer any one of the following questions in 120-150 words:**

Both Derry and Lamb are victims of physical impairment, but much more painful for them is feeling of loneliness. Comment.

**OR**

The actual pain or inconvenience caused by a physical impairment is often much less than the sense of alienation felt by the person with disabilities. What is the kind of behaviour that the person expects from others?