

CLASS XII - CBSE

Time Allowed : 2 Hour

ENGLISH

Maximum Marks : 40

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains **THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.**
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

HAVE CONTROL → HAVE PATIENCE → HAVE CONFIDENCE ⇒ 100% SUCCESS

SECTION A – READING (14 marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully :

[1 × 8 = 8]

1. Too many parents these days can't say no. As a result, they find themselves raising 'children' who respond greedily to the advertisements aimed right at them. Even getting what they want doesn't satisfy some kids; they only want more. Now, a growing number of psychologists, educators and parents think it's time to stop the madness and start teaching kids about what's really important : values like hard work, contentment, honesty and compassion. The struggle to set limits has never been tougher—and the stakes have never been higher. One recent study of adults who were overindulged as children, paints a discouraging picture of their future : when given too much too soon, they grow up to be adults who have difficulty coping with life's disappointments. They also have distorted sense of entitlement that gets in the way of success in the work place and in relationships.
2. Psychologists say that parents who overindulge their kids, set them up to be more vulnerable to future anxiety and depression. Today's parents themselves raised on values of thrift and self-sacrifice, grew up in a culture where 'no' was a household word. Today's kids want much more, partly because there is so much more to want. The oldest members of this generation were born in the late 1980s, just as PCs and video games were making their assault' on the family room. They think of MP3 players and flat screen TV as essential utilities, and they have developed strategies to get them. One survey of teenagers found that when they crave for something new, most expect to ask nine times before their parents give in. By every measure, parents are shelling out record amounts. In the heat of this buying blitz, even parents who desperately need to say no find themselves reaching for their credit cards.
3. Today's parents aren't equipped to deal with the problem. Many of them, raised in the 1960s and 70s, swore they'd act differently from their parents and have closer relationships with their own children. Many even wear the same designer clothes as their kids and listen to the same music. And they work more hours; at the end of a long week, it's tempting to buy peace with 'yes' and not mar precious family time with conflict. Anxiety about the future is another factor. How do well intentioned parents say no to all the sports gear and arts and language lessons they believe will help their kids thrive in an increasingly competitive world? Experts agree: too much love won't spoil a child. Too few limits will.
4. What parents need to find, is a balance between the advantages of an affluent society and the critical life lessons that come from waiting, saving and working hard to achieve goals. That search for balance has to start early. Children need limits on their behaviour because they feel better and more secure when they live within a secured structure.

Older children learn self-control by watching how others, especially parents act. Learning how to overcome challenges is essential to becoming a successful adult. Few parents ask kids to do chores. They think their kids are already overburdened by social and academic pressures. Every individual can be of service to others, and life has meaning beyond one's own immediate happiness. That means parents eager to teach values have to take a long, hard look at their own.

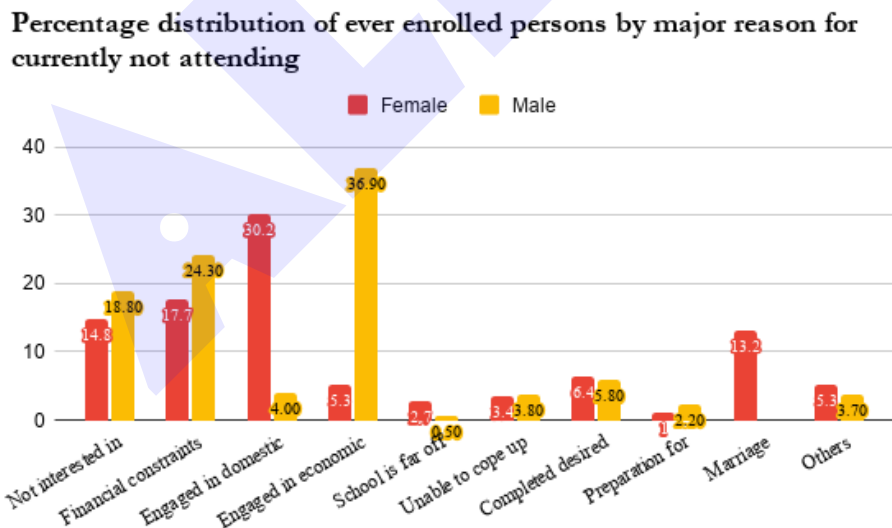
Based on your understanding of the passage, answer ANY EIGHT questions from the nine given below.

- (i) What values do parents and teachers want children to learn? [1]
- (ii) What are the results of giving the children too much too soon? [1]
- (iii) Why do today’s children want more? [1]
- (iv) What is the balance which the parents need to have in today’s world? [1]
- (v) What is the necessity to set limits for children? [1]
- (vi) How do older children learn self-control? [1]
- (vii) What is the drawback of giving children too much too soon? [1]
- (viii) Why do children need limits on their behaviour when they live within a secured structure? [1]
- (ix) What is essential to become a successful adult? [1]

2. Read the following passage carefully. [1 × 6 = 6]

Every year, a large number of students drop out of school worldwide. This hinders their economic and social well-being as well as reduces the literacy rate of the country and creates a non-innovative environment. The issue of dropout in India is of particular importance and interest.

A recent survey by National Statistical Office (NSO) has revealed that around 12.6% of students drop out of school in India, 19.8% discontinued education at the secondary level, while 17.5% dropped out at the upper primary level. As per the survey, a dropout is an “ever-enrolled person” who does not complete the last level of education for which he/she has enrolled and is currently not attending any educational institution. The Government's Right to Education Act and National Policy on Education may have been motivating to provide education to all but it is equally important to analyze the sustainability and efficiency of the education system. Dropout rates are considered to be a great wastage in the education system, not only do many students leave school without acquiring basic skills, but their premature departure represents a significant waste of scarce education resources.



Help in domestic work, economic condition, and lack of interest were found to be the topmost cause of discontinuing education. About 30.2% of the girls gave domestic work as the reason for discontinuing education and about 36.90% of boys left studies because they had to support their families. It becomes especially difficult for girls to continue studying because of concerns about their safety. They face sanitary problems due to poor school facilities ultimately forcing them to stay back at home. Considered to be a liability, many girls are imposed to stay back at home, or are forced to get married at an early age (13.2%).

Many children believe that there is no point in studying if they have to do the same job as their parents, thus

they leave school at primary level itself. More than 30% of children involved in the survey showed a lack of interest in studies, they preferred to drop out because whatever was being taught in schools barely intrigued them. India is also dealing with the problems of inclusion and equality, children from the marginalized sections of the population, or with physical disability/ health issues have to leave schools when they face hostile behaviour from their peers.

It is recommended that the government conducts awareness camps in cities, towns, and villages to expose the hazards of illiteracy and unemployment. National Education Policy 2020 has mentioned two initiatives that will be undertaken to curb the problem. The first is to provide efficient and sufficient infrastructure to all students and the second is to set up alternative and innovative education centers for the children of migrant labourers. These are vital steps to ensure that children have access to safe and engaging school education as well as to bring back the ones out of school. A dropout early warning system enables schools to identify students who are at risk of dropping out of school, and to focus on individuals who struggle to perform well. Schools should practice innovative teaching methods to draw students towards education and spark interest in them. Digital learning strategies can be used to provide education in the confines of their homes, students can access free educational content through smart-phone applications or YouTube provided by different institutions.

Education enables a person to achieve a better job or means of self-employment, and climb out of intergenerational poverty. It cultivates cultural values and beliefs in the child. Once the awareness to send students regularly to the school continues, slow but sure results will follow.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer ANY SIX out of the seven questions given below.

- (i) What is the direct impact of students dropping out of school worldwide according to the passage? [1]
- (ii) According to the NSO what is the percentage of school dropouts in education at the secondary level. [1]
- (iii) What is the definition of school dropout? [1]
- (iv) What factors affect the implementation of the government's right to education act and national policy on education? [1]
- (v) According to the bar graph, what are the most important reasons of dropout? [1]
- (vi) Give one most important reason of dropouts in girls and one most important reason of dropouts in boys according to the data provided. [1]
- (vii) What percentage of girls leave school because of early marriage as mentioned in the passage? [1]

SECTION B – WRITING (8 Marks)

3. M/s Shyam Lai & Sons are opening a new general store 'Galaxy Novelties' in Geetanjali Enclave, Dwarika, Delhi. The inauguration ceremony is fixed for Sunday, the 19th of October 20XX at 11 a.m. Prepare a draft of formal invitation letter for the purpose. [3]
4. Bal Vidya Public School, Bhilai, urgently requires a post-graduate teacher to teach political science for which they have placed an advertisement in The Bhilai Express. You are Sanjay/Sanjana Sharma from 21, Vasant Marg, Bhilai. Draft a letter in about 120-150 words including a CV, applying for the advertised post. [5]

OR

As a staff reporter for 'The Times of India', Delhi, you are asked to cover an incident of daylight robbery on the outskirts of Delhi, While the inmates were present in the house. Write a report in 120-150 words.

SECTION C – LITERATURE (18 Marks)

5. Attempt ANY FIVE of the six questions given below, within 40 words each. [2×5=10]
- (i) Why did the peddler decline ironmaster's invitation? [2]
 - (ii) Why do you think Gandhi considered Champaran episode to be a turning point in his life? [2]
 - (iii) What image does the poet use to describe the beautiful beauty of the earth? [2]
 - (iv) What does the wedding band symbolize? [2]
 - (v) Why is one green growing plant called a weed and another flower? What does Mr. Lamb mean by this statement? [2]
 - (vi) Why do you think Jackson asks Evans to remove the pin ups from the cell? [2]
6. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 120-150 words each. [4×2=8]
- (i) What precautions were taken for the smooth conduct of the O-Level German examination in prison and why? [4]
 - (ii) Give account of Gandhi's efforts to secure justice for the poor indigo sharecroppers of Champaran. [4]
 - (iii) How does a thing of beauty bring joy in our lives? [4]