

## Final Term Examination 2017-2018

Std. : IX

Full Marks : 80

Subject : English Language

Time : 2hrs.+15mins. (Reading Time)

**Q1. Write a composition (300-350) on any one of the following : [20]**

- (a) Modes of communication have changed drastically over the years. Describe some of the important changes. Also state which one you like the best and why.
- (b) Narrate an encounter with a celebrity whom you admire and always wished to meet.
- (c) A long life is a blessing. Give your views either for or against the statement.
- (d) Write a story entitled: 'An Unexpected Return'.
- (e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be directly about the subject of the picture or may take suggestions from it, but there must be some clear connection between the picture and the composition.



**Q2. Select ONE of the following : [10]**

- (a) Write a letter to the Manager of a renowned furniture brand, complaining about the poor quality of the furniture that you purchased recently from them. Give details of the nature of complaint and request for immediate repair or replacement as needed.
- (b) Write a letter to your sister describing the medical camp, which was organised by your school, in a village to provide medical aid and raise awareness about common diseases like diarrhoea, dysentery, malaria, dengue, etc.

**Q3. (a) You are the Head Girl/Head Boy of your school. Write a notice for the school Notice Board inviting students from classes IX and X for a visit to an Old Age Home on the occasion of World Health Day. [5]**

- (b) Write an e-mail to the Director of the Old Age Home informing him about the visit of students from your school to the Old Age Home. [5]

**Q4.** Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

My beautiful new watch had run eighteen months without losing or gaining, and without breaking any part of its machinery or stopping. I had come to believe it infallible in its judgements about the time of day, and to consider its constitution and its anatomy imperishable. But, at last, one night, I let it run down. I grieved about it as if it were a recognised messenger and forerunner of calamity. But by and by I cheered up, set the watch by guess and commanded my superstitions to depart.

Next day, I stepped into the chief jeweller's to set it by the exact time. The head of the establishment took it out of my hand and proceeded to set it for me. Then he said, 'She is four minutes slow—regulator wants pushing up.' I tried to stop him and implored him to let the watch alone; but he cruelly did the shameful deed.

My watch began to gain. It gained faster and faster day by day. Within a week it sickened to a raging fever and its pulse went up and up. At the end of two months, it had left all the timepieces of the town far behind and was a fraction over thirteen days ahead of time. It was away into November enjoying the snow, while the October leaves were still turning yellow.

I took it to the watchmaker to be regulated. He had a look of vicious happiness and eagerly pried the watch open, and then put a small dice-box into his eye and peered into its machinery. He said it wanted cleaning and oiling. After this, my watch slowed down to that degree that it ticked all appointments I go to, missing my dinner, I gradually drifted back into yesterday, then the day before, then into last and the world was out of sight.

I went to the watchmaker again. He took the watch all to pieces and took three days to sort it right. After this the watch averaged well, but nothing more. But a correct average is only a mild virtue in a watch. Following another visit to another watchmaker it would run a while and then stop a while, using its own discretion about the intervals, and so I went again to have the watch repaired. It now performed unexceptionably, except that often after few hours, everything inside would fall apart and begin to buzz like a bee. Its hands would spin round and round, so fast, that they simply seemed a delicate spider's web over the face of the watch.

The watch had cost two hundred dollars and I seemed to have paid out two or three thousand for repairs.

(a) Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage. One word answer or short phrases will be accepted. [3]

(i) infallible.

(ii) implored

(iii) drifted

(b) Answer the following questions briefly :—

(i) What were the narrator's views on his new watch before it developed some fault ? How did the watch develop a fault ? [2]

(ii) What superstitions of the narrator are referred to in the first paragraph of the passage ? [2]

- (iii) What is the shameful deed referred to in the second paragraph ? [2]
- (iv) Explain the meaning of : It was away into November enjoying the show, while the October leaves were still turning yellow. [2]
- (v) Give an example of humour from the passage. [1]
- (c) In not more than 60 words, summarise the erratic working of the watch. [8]

**Q5. (a) In the following passage, fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in correct serial order, the word or the phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]**

Ibrahim ibn Adham was a prince of a small kingdom in Persia. He was very pious and \_\_\_1\_\_\_ (spend) many hours every day in prayer in a beautiful \_\_\_2\_\_\_ (bejewel) mosque in his palace. One day, as he \_\_\_3\_\_\_ (pray), he \_\_\_4\_\_\_ (hear) a loud thumping sound on his roof. It sounded like the clattering of horses' hooves! \_\_\_5\_\_\_ (rush) out, he looked up at the roof, and sure enough, there \_\_\_6\_\_\_ (be) his palace guards — twenty men on horseback. "What on earth are you doing up there?" Ibrahim shouted. "Your Majesty," the captain of the guard yelled back, "we are searching for our camels that \_\_\_7\_\_\_ (wander) away." "But why are you looking for camels on the roof?" asked the prince. "We are only following Your Majesty's example; you strive \_\_\_8\_\_\_ (seek) God while living in the luxuries of a royal palace," came the reply.

**(b) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words : [4]**

- (i) Our drains are clogged ..... plastic bags.
- (ii) The Minister condemned the killings as a crime ..... humanity.
- (iii) They have embarked ..... a new project.
- (iv) Do not quarrel with her ..... a trifle.
- (v) People tend to dip ..... their savings at the end of the month.
- (vi) New cars must comply ..... the latest standards.
- (vii) A pedestrian was knocked ..... by a car.
- (viii) The matter has been dealt .....

**(c) Combine each set of the following sentences without using and, but, or so. [4]**

- (i) The farmer had worked the whole day. He was exhausted.
- (ii) I tried to swim across the river. I did not succeed.
- (iii) He is a man of principles. He is held in great esteem.
- (iv) He was a great general. He introduced many reforms in the army.

**(d) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each.**

**[8]**

- (i) Nobody has behaved with us like this before.  
(Begin : Never.....)
- (ii) "If you need help, contact the travel agent," I advised the tourists.  
(Begin : The tourists.....)
- (iii) My cousin is short yet he is a good basketball player.  
(Begin : In spite.....)
- (iv) She can go for picnic only if she gets better.  
(Begin : Unless.....)
- (v) Didn't I meet you in the school yesterday ?  
(End.....didn't I ?)
- (vi) As soon as we lit the candle, the power supply was restored.  
(Begin : No sooner.....)
- (vii) Sheetal is one of the fastest athletes of our school.  
(Begin : Very few.....)
- (viii) Give the command.  
(Eng.....given.)