

First Term Examination 2022-23
Class IX
English Language(English Paper-I)

Roll N.: _____

Hours: 02:00

Name: _____

M.M. 80

Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.

You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Attempt all five questions.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

You are advised to spend not more than 30 minutes in answering Question 1 and 20 minutes in answering Question 2.

Question 1

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

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

- (a) Write a story of your own with the theme "Cut your coat according to your cloth."
- (b) Describe the scene of a busy street during a hot summer afternoon.
- (c) Narrate an incident from your own experience when you taught someone an important life lesson. Explain how you did that and what you learnt from that experience.
- (d) Express your views either for or against the statement; "Availability of all types of information on the internet is doing more harm than good."
- (e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.

Question 2

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

Select any one of the following:

[10]

- (a) You were down with chicken pox and had missed school for three weeks. Your friend sent you notes for the classes you missed. Write a letter to your friend thanking him for sending you the notes.
- (b) Write a letter to the Manager of a firm of dry-cleaners, complaining about the damage done to the original colour of your expensive suit during dry-cleaning and seeking compensation for the same.

Question 3

(a) Your school is hosting an Inter-School Debate Competition.

Write a notice to be displayed in your school giving all details for the event. [5]

(b) Write an e-mail to the Principal of a neighbouring school requesting him / her to send students to participate in the Debate Competition. [5]

Question 4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

At the close of a summer day the narrator sat on a farmhouse porch atop a hill. A sixty-year-old servant, Aunt Rachel, sat respectfully on a lower step cheerfully enduring merciless chafing. As she roared with laughter, the narrator asked her, "How it is that you had never had any trouble?" Taken aback, she replied, "Mister C-, are you in earnest?" Sobered by her manner, the narrator said, "Since I have never seen you other than cheerful, I thought you never had a bad day in your life". Aunt Rachel became serious and began her story.

I was born as an African-American and therefore, me and my family had to suffer prejudices because of the colour of our skin. Despite the reality of being forced into servitude, I had a loving husband and had seven children, whom we dearly loved. <https://www.icseonline.com>

Remembering her mother, she said that my mother often used to say, "I was not born in the mesh to be fool' by trash! I am one of the all Blue Hen's Chickens!" And I too used my mother's expression often when I got annoyed.

My mistress went broke and auctioned off all her servants in Richmond. One by one, I lost my husband and six children. Only my youngest child, Henry, remained, and I held him tightly. Henry whispered to me that he would run away and work so that he could buy me freedom. Despite my fierce resistance, Henry was eventually taken away. Since that day, twenty-two years ago, I had not set eyes on my husband or six of my children.

I was taken to "Newbern" where I became the family cook. During the American Civil War, when the Union took the town, the family fled, leaving all its servants behind. Union Army officers then occupied the house and I started cooking for them. These officers treated me respectfully and gave me unquestioned command over the kitchen.

Remembering Henry's vow to escape I one day asked the officers if they might have seen him. I described Henry as very little, with scars on his wrist and forehead, but a General reminded me that after thirteen years Henry would now be a man-something that I had completely forgotten.

My house was often the site of soldier balls, during which I guarded the kitchen zealously. One night, there was a ball for soldiers, who particularly irritated me. When a young man danced into my kitchen I chased him away from kitchen repeating the words my mother often used to say. My words made the man's expression change momentarily.

I overheard, the young man telling a companion that he would not return with the others that night. Early the next morning, as I was cooking in the kitchen, the same young man unexpectedly reappeared and looked at me closely in the eye. Suddenly I knew. I dropped my pan and examined his scarred wrist and forehead. It was my Henry. "Oh, no, Mister C-," Rachel said, "I had no trouble. And no joy!"

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

- (i) enduring
- (ii) Sobered
- (iii) prejudices

b. Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words.

- (i) Why does the narrator think that Aunt Rachel never had a bad day in her life? [2]
- (ii) What had happened to Aunt Rachel's husband and children? [2]
- (iii) Why did Henry go away from her? [1]
- (iv) What happened during the Civil War? [2]
- (v) What happened at the ball one night? How did Henry meet his mother? [2]

c. In not more than 50 words, state the suffering borne by Aunt Rachel. [8]

Question 5

- (a) 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 phrase appropriate to the blank space. <https://www.icseonline.com> [4]

Example (0) bought

A farmer and his neighbour once went to Emperor Akbar's court with a complaint. "Your Majesty, I ...0....(buy) a well from him," said the farmer, ..1.. (point) to his neighbour, "and now he 2...(want) me ...3... (pay) for the water."

"That's right, your Majesty," said the neighbour. "I ...4... (sell) him the well but not the water!"

The Emperor asked Birbal to settle the dispute,

"Didn't you say that you sold your well to this farmer?" Birbal asked.
"So, the well belongs to him now, but you ...5.... (keep) your water in
right? Well, in that case you ...6.... (have) to pay him a rent or ...7... (to

out at once." The neighbour realised that he ...8... (outwit). He quickly apologised and gave up his claim.

(b) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word:

[4]

- (i) The puppy was hiding _____ the sofa.
- (ii) Stop worrying _____ your future.
- (iii) When I stepped _____ the lift, I found it had stopped working.
- (iv) We had to use a bridge to go _____ the river.
- (v) I have lived in this town _____ ten years.
- (vi) Please switch _____ all lights and fans when you leave the room.
- (vii) Ronnie is married _____ my cousin.
- (viii) The gift came _____ a birthday card.

(c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using and, but or so:

[4]

- (i) He was very ill. He did not take any medicine.
- (ii) You come back from your holiday. We will discuss the problem.
- (iii) He remained absent on Friday. It was foolish of him.
- (iv) Rahul ran all the way to the bus stop. He missed the bus.

(d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence.

[8]

- (i) The old woman said to Arun, "Can you help me to cross the street?"
(Begin: The old woman asked Arun)
- (ii) As soon as the sun rose over the hills, the fog disappeared.
(Begin: No sooner)
- (iii) It rained so heavily that they could not go for the picnic.
(Rewrite: Using 'too to')
- (iv) If your friends get here before 7 o'clock we can take them out for dinner.
(Rewrite: Using 'unless'.)
- (v) The school captain was elected by the students of classes XI and XII.
(Begin: The students)
- (vi) Greenland is the largest island in the world.
(Rewrite: Using 'larger'.)
- (vii) How cruel Shylock was to demand his pound of flesh!
(Begin: It was cruel)
- (viii) Arun was asked by his mother to explain the missing buttons on his shirt.
(Rewrite: Using 'explanation')