

**FIRST PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION 2020 – 2021**

Class : XII  
Sub : English Language

Time : 3 hrs  
Marks : 80

**Attempt all four questions.**

(You are advised to spend not more than 45 minutes on Question 1.  
55 minutes on Question 2, 30 minutes on Question 3, 55 minutes on Question 4)

**Question. 1**

Write a composition in 400 to 450 words on any one of the following subjects:- **20**

1. Sometimes we take nature for granted narrate an experience that made you appreciate the natural world.
2. Describe a trip together with your friends through a mountainous terrain.
3. 'Sports should be an indispensable part of our education' Argue either for or against the topic.
4. "The old, older change yielding place to new" Discuss.
5. Misunderstanding.
6. 'All that glitters is not gold' write an original story to bring out the truth of this proverb.

**Question. 2**

(a). The residents welfare association of your area organized Holi Milan Samaroh. Write a report for the local news magazine of your area titled, 'Holi Milan Samaroh' Salempur. Base your reports on the following points: **15**

Date - time -venue- the beautifully decorated huge pandal, a large  
number of stalls - ranging from - food- clothing- jewelry- gift items -fund racing -  
**cultural programs- highlights of the Mela** - heavy discounts to the  
buyers - and fireworks in the evening - attracted huge crowds.

(b). As the head boy/ head girl of your school you have been given the responsibility of organizing a farewell program for the senior students of your school. Write a proposal in not more than 150 words stating the steps you would take to successfully organize this gathering.

**10**

**Question. 3**

In each of the following items sentence A is complete but sentence B is not. Complete sentence B making it as similar in meaning as possible to sentence A. Write down sentence B in each case. **5**

(a).

1. A. The last time Amit came to my house was in 2015.  
B. Amit hasn't.....
2. A. I met your sister by chance at the airport last week.  
B. I ran.....
3. A. My advice to you is to talk to your parents.  
B. If I were you.....
4. A. Give me a call only if you have to buy petrol for the car.  
B. Unless.....
5. Tiger Woods is most powerful golfer at present.  
B. No.....
6. A. Riya plans to finish her graduation and then go abroad immediately.  
B. The moment.....

7. A. "I did not steal the money from the safe," said Umesh.  
B. Umesh denied.....
8. A. I was made responsible for foreign sales.  
B. They put me.....
9. A. He inquired of us whether we are going away on the following day.  
B. He said, "....."
10. A. You will have to spend at least rupees 10,000 to get that cell phone.  
B. You won't.....

**(b). Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (Do not copy the sentence).**

5

1. She turned..... to be more intelligent than her brother.
2. Sumit turned ..... his friend.
3. How are you getting..... with your new business.
4. The purpose of this enquiry is to get .....the facts.
5. Do not fall..... with your friends.
6. The cadets were ordered to fall.....
7. Have you given .....your essay yet?
8. I had to give..... the Spanish classes because I just didn't have time.
9. She put..... her shoes at the entrance of the temple.
10. They were agitating.... better amenities.

**(c.). In the following passage fill 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 appropriate to the blank space.)** <https://www.icseonline.com>

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In America Swami Vivekananda was....(1) (watch) some boys. They .....(2) (stand) on the bridge trying....(3) (shoot) at egg-shells that .....(4) (float) on the river. But they always .....(5) (miss) the target. Swamiji .....(6) (take) the gun and.....(7) aim at the shells. He .....(8) (fire) twelve times and every time he hit an egg-shell. The boys asked Swamiji: 'Well Master, how did you do it?' Swamiji said, "Whatever you .....(9) (do) put your whole mind on it. If you are shooting, your mind should be only on the target. Then you will never miss. If you are learning your lessons think only of the lesson. In my country boys....(10) (teach) to do this.'

**Question. 4**

Read carefully the passage given below and answer the questions (a), (b) and (c) that follow:

I started for school late that morning and was in great dread of scolding especially because M. Hamel had said that he would question us on participles, and I did not know a word about them. For a moment I thought of running away and spending the day out of doors. It was all much more tempting than the rule for participles, but I had the strength to resist and hurried off to school. When I passed the town hall there was a crowd in front of the bulletin-board. For the last two years all our bad news had come from there. The lost battles, the draft, the orders of the commanding officer-- and I thought to myself without stopping "What can be the matter now? I hurried by as fast as I could. Usually, when school began, there was a great bustle. But now it was all so still! Through the window I saw my classmates, already in their places, and M. Hamel walking up and down with his terrible iron ruler under his arm. I had to open the door and go in to front of everybody. You can imagine how frightened I was. M. Hamel saw me and said, "Go to

your place quickly, little Franz. We were beginning without you." I jumped over the bench and sat down at my desk.

The school seemed so strange and solemn that day. But the thing that surprised me most was to see, on the back benches the village people sitting quietly like ourselves. While I was wondering about it all, M. Hamel said in the grave and gentle tone: "My children, this is the last lesson I shall give you. The order has come from Berlin to teach only German in the schools of Alsace and Lorraine. The new master comes tomorrow. This is your last French lesson. I want you to be very attentive."

What a thunderclap these words were to me! Oh, the wretches; that was what they had put up at the town hall! My last French lesson! Why, I hardly knew how to write! I must stop there, then! Oh, how sorry I was for not learning my lessons! My books, that had seemed such a nuisance a while ago, were old friends now that I couldn't give up. And M. Hamel, too, the idea that he was going away, that I should never see him again, made me forget all about his ruler and how cranky he was. Now I understood why the old men of the village were sitting there in the back of the room. It was their way of thanking a master for his 40 years of faithful service.

M. Hamel said: everyday we have said to ourselves, "Bah! I have plenty of time. I will learn it tomorrow." And now you see where we have come out! Then M. Hamel went on to talk of the French language, saying it is the most beautiful language in the world- the clearest, the most logical; that we must guard it among us and never forget it, because when people are enslaved, as long as they hold fast to their language it is as if they had the key to their prison. All at once the church -clock struck 12. M. Hamel stood up, very pale, from his chair. "My friends," said he, "I-I-" but something choked him. He could not go on. He stopped and leaned his head against the wall, and, without a word, he made a gesture to us with his hand: "School is dismissed- you may go."

(a). (i). Given below are four words. Find the words which have a similar meaning in the passage.

1. sear.....
2. attractive.....
3. activity.....
4. serious.....

(ii). For each of the words given below write a sentence of at least 10 words using the same word and unchanged in form but with a different meaning from that which it carries in the passage.

1. rule (line 4)
2. grave (line 17)
3. last (line 18)
4. service (line 28)

(b). Answer the following questions as briefly as possible in your own words:

1. Why was Franz afraid of going to school that day?
2. What unusual changes did Franz notice in school?
3. What was the order from Berlin? What was the impact of the order on Franz?
4. Explain the meaning of the statement: "When people are enslaved as long as they hold fast in their language it is as if they had the key to their prison."

(c.). In not more than 100 words describe Franz's feelings for M. Hamel in the beginning and at the end of the story.