**DAV PUBLIC SCHOOL CHANDRASEKHARPUR, BBSR-21**

**POST SUMMER VACATION TEST ( 2023-24)**

**ENGLISH CORE (Code No. 301)**

**CLASS-XII**

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| **Time allowed: 1.5 Hrs. 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. |

**SECTION A : READING SKILLS (10 marks)**

**Reading Comprehension through Unseen Passage**

1. **Read the following passage very carefully:**

* 1. Panchayati Raj goes a long way in accomplishing community participation and empowering the marginalized and vulnerable in the hinterland through grassroots administrative institutions.
  2. Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) play a predominant role in the delegation of power and resources to villages. The role of PRIs acquires crucial significance in the attainment of cherished ideals of good governance including Gram Swaraj and localization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
  3. Mahatma Gandhi deserves special mention for conceptualizing Panchayat Raj in India. He envisioned Panchayats as a small self-sufficient republic that entails total participation of the people and equal opportunities for all.
  4. The 1993 amendment has proved to be a catalyst in bringing more than 14.5 lakh women into leadership roles in the country’s local governance. At present as many as 20 states have 50% seats reserved for women in their PRIs. States such as Karnataka are giving the much-needed impetus to women into governance with more than 50% women representation in PRIs. Since ages, the prerogative of men in politics and governance is slowly and steadily changing at the grassroots and women are at the forefront making their way in a field from which they have historically been excluded. To top it all, while the Covid crisis had disproportionate impact on women, in terms of increased vulnerability to job and income losses, and heightened burden of care work, women have shined through as being the first responders in their roles as frontline health workers, and local leaders in PRIs and Self-Help Groups.
  5. Panchayat Palli in Jammu was selected for the Panchayati Raj Divas event this year and an exhibition showcasing latest innovations was put up enabling farmers, sarpanchs and village heads to advance their income and their produce.
  6. The need and demand for good governance is fuelled with the rapid expansion of the economy as well as the growing awareness for proclamation of rights by the populace. PRI engagement is possibly the only existing mechanism to accomplish large-scale community participation and empower the marginalized and vulnerable, particularly women, children, and the poor. While the centre and the state government are together implementing various development programmes, it all boils down to PRIs to have a definite mandate for realization of the goal towards improving the quality of life in rural areas. To sum up in the words of Mahatma Gandhi, “When the Panchayat Raj is established, public opinion will do what violence can never do.”

(Source- India Today- Focus- Panchayati Raj)

**(A) On the basis of your reading the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given options: (1x5=5)**

1. Complete the sentence by choosing the appropriate option:

Panchayati Raj Institutions have been formed for\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. assigning excess power to villages B. assigning power and resources to villages
2. taking away power and resources from villages D. converting villages into metropolitan cities
3. According to para-4, which of the options most appropriately describes the impact of Covid crisis on women in villages?
4. drastic fall in job opportunities B. increased stress of care work
5. outshined as first responders in roles as frontline health workers D. All the above
6. Select the most suitable title for the above passage-
7. Gandhiji’s vision for PRIs B.Role of Women in PRIs

C. Flag bearers of Participative Democracy D.Central government Vs PRIs

1. Statement-A: Panchayat Palli in Jammu was selected for the Panchayati Raj Divas event this year.

Statement-R: Exhibition showcasing latest innovations was put up to advance everyone’s income and their produce.

* 1. Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
  2. Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
  3. A is true but R is false. D. A is false but R is true.

v. The 1993 amendment has proved to be a **catalyst** in bringing more than 14.5 lakh women into leadership roles in the country’s local governance.

Select the option that conveys the opposite contextual meaning of **‘catalyst’**

1. Adjuvant B. agitator C. stimulant D. hindrance

**(B) Answer the following questions in 30-40words:**

vi. In what way did Mahatma Gandhi try to attain localization of SDGs while conceptualizing Panchayat Raj in India? **(1)**

vii. The author says, “....the prerogative of men in politics and governance is slowly and steadily changing at the grassroots”. Share two evidences from the text, in about 40 words, to justify it **(2)**

viii. The role of PRIs in improving the quality of life in rural areas is praiseworthy. Elucidate in about 40 words.  **(2)**

**SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS (09 marks)**

2. (A) You are Rakesh/Reshma, the Secretary of the School Literary Club of Gyan Jyoti Public School, Rourkela. The club is organising a series of literary activities to improve and enhance English speaking skills. Draft a notice in about 50 words, for the school notice board, informing the students of classes VI-XII about the competitions and inviting them to participate. Mention the need to improve English Language skills.

**OR (4m)**

(B) You are Karan/Karuna Bajaj, Secretary, Janata Group Housing Society, Palam Vihar, Kurnool. Water supply will be suspended for eight hours (10 am to 6 pm) on 30th of June for cleaning of the water tank. Write a notice in about 50 words advising the residents to store water for a day and also express your regret for the inconvenience.

3. (A) You are Akshit/Akshita Roy of B-94 Mahatab Road, Kansbahal. You work as an intern at Weld Tech Industries, Panposh. You saw the advertisement given below in the newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. Write an application in 120- 150 words along with a resume.

|  |
| --- |
| India Chemical Industries, Bhubaneswar  requires **Accounts Officers**  Qualification: B. Com.  Experience: Minimum 2 years  Job requirement: Maintaining books of accounts, preparation of Balance Sheet, etc.  Salary: Best in the Industry  Apply to: The Managing Director, ICI, B-12 B, Nilgiri Road, Bhubaneswar Contact: 9897556980 |

**OR (5m)**

(B) There have been increased reporting of cases of domestic violence during this period of rapid change in every field of life in the society. This shows a grave scenario that being forced in the race of life everyone in our society is responsible for this. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily in about 120 – 150 words sharing your opinion about the same and some ways to save the families as well as the societies. Use the given clues along with your ideas to compose this letter.

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| --- |
| Education – curriculum – human values - human relations – professional - way of life – mechanical – no time for understanding the self – self cantered – absence of moral values and ethics – spending more time with machines, internet, gadgets etc. |



**SECTION C : LITERATURE (21 marks)**

**4. Read the following extract and answer the questions . (1x6)**

*And*

*looked out at young*

*Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling out of their homes, but after the airport’s security check, standing a few yards away, I looked again at her, wan, pale*

*as a late winter’s moon and felt that old familiar ache…*

i. The most likely reason for which the poet capitalized ‘Young Trees’ is to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A. convey a clearer meaning. B. highlight the *adj.*-*noun* combination.

C. enhance the contrast. D. draw a connection with the title.

ii. The poet looked out because\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Complete the sentence)

iii. Choose the option that completes the sentence given below.

Just as the brightness of the winter’s moon is veiled behind the haze and mist, similarly,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. the pain of separation has shaded mother’s expression.

B. growing age has taken away mother’s youthful appearance.

C. the poet is looking gloomy with the thought of mother’s approaching death.

D. old memories warm the heart.

iv. Choose the correct option out of the ones given below.

A. OPTION-A B. OPTION-B

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Metaphor | Imagery |
| Pale as a late winter’s moon | merry children spilling |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Simile | Metaphor |
| the merry children spilling | old familiar ache |

C. OPTION-C D. OPTION-D

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Imagery | personification |
| Trees sprinting | the merry children spilling |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Personification | Simile |
| Trees sprinting | Pale as a late winter’s moon |

v. The phrase ‘old familiar ache’ has been used to refer to a fear in this extract.

This phrase can also be used to

A. compare physical pain with mental agony. B. elicit someone’s unanswered queries.

C. substantiate reasons for aches and pains. D. describe a sort of pain one has been aware of.

vi. What does the expression “ *merry children spilling out of their homes”symbolize?*

**5. Read the following extract and answer the questions. (1x6)**

Food is more important for survival than an identity. "If at the end of the day we can feed our families and go to bed without an aching stomach, we would rather live here than in the fields that gave us no grain," say a group of women in tattered saris when I ask them why they left their beautiful land of green fields and rivers. Wherever they find food, they pitch their tents that become transit homes. Children grow up in them, becoming partners in survival. And survival in Seemapuri means rag-picking. Through the years, it has acquired the proportions of fine art. Garbage to them is gold. It is their daily bread, a roof over their heads, even if it is a leaking roof. But for a child, it is even more. (Lost Spring)

i. Identify the sentence in which the same figure of speech has been used as in "Garbage to them is gold”.

A. My love is like a red rose. B. Ten thousand saw I at a glance.

C. My heart leaps up when I behold a rainbow in the sky D. Death, be not proud.

ii. The reference to 'transit homes' indicates

A. lack of money B. lack of proper facilities C. lack of proper means of living D. lack of identity

iii. What does garbage mean to a child in Seemapuri ?

iv. Choose the term which best matches the statement 'Food is more important for survival than an identity."

A. immorality B. necessity C. obligation D. ambition

v. That’s why they left, looking for gold in the big city. Here ‘gold‘ indicates\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. misfortune of circumstances B. ample wealth C. means of survival D. a sign of luxury

vi . Choose the statement that is not true about rag pickers of Seemapuri.

A. Children are equally involved in rag picking as their parents.

B. The rag pickers settle down in permanent habitats.

C. Rag- picking has accomplished itself as a skill and form of art.

D. Rag -pickers live in unsteady shanties on the outskirts of Delhi.

**6. Read the given extract and answer the questions. (1x4)**

Sometimes I think Grand Central is growing like a tree, pushing out new quarters and staircases like roots. There is probably a long tunnel that nobody knows about feeling its way under the city right now, on its way to Times Square, and maybe another to Central Park. And maybe-because for so many people through the years Grand Central has been an exit, a way of Escape-may be that is how the tunnel I got into… But I never told my psychiatrist friend about that idea.

i. The tone of the author is ………..

A. solemn and surprising B. sarcastic and mocking C. sympathetic and sorrowful. D. alarming and assertive

ii. Complete the following analogy by selecting a suitable word from the extract:

Exit; Entry : ————;Capture

iii. The speaker compares the Grand Central to a tree because\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A. Grand Central was a tree that actually pushed out new corridors and staircases.

B. It is used as a metaphor to express his own thoughts which keep on branching and popping every time.

C. Whenever Charley enters the Grand Central Station, he finds new corridors, stair cases and tunnels, just like branches of a tree

D. Grand Central has been a place of escape for so many people through the years

iv. The idiom ‘feeling its way’ implies a …………movement.

A. swift B. tentative C. circular D. disorganised

**7. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in 120-150 words (5)**

(A). Procrastination can result in loss of opportunity and regret. The character of Franz reflects this truth of life. Imagine yourself as Franz and write a diary entry expressing your feelings and regrets of not being able to learn your mother tongue. Support your response with reference to the story.

You may start in this way

How harmful procrastination is! Today, I am going to write a bitter experience of my life that occurred due to procrastination. Procrastination leads to loss of opportunity and regret. I was not very serious in my study-----------

**OR**

(B) The poem “Keeping Quiet” comes with the wishes of the poet Pablo Neruda. In this poem, Neruda talks about the necessity of quiet introspection and creating a feeling of mutual understanding among human beings. Elaborate on the benefits of quiet introspection and the poet’s expectations as evident in the poem.