**PRE BOARD EXAM 2014-15**

**English**

**Class X**

**Time : 3¼ Hrs. MM : 80**

**Section A (Reading)**

**Q.1 Read the following Passage Carefully and answer the Question.**

The camel is the oldest of domestic animals. It has been used for thousand of years by the desert people of Africa and Asia to supply many of their needs. On the fertile edges of the desert, camels pull ploughs, turn wheels to irrigate the field and carry goods to market. In the desert itself, they are still almost the only means of transport. They supply food, milk, and clothing in the form of wool and leather.

This useful animal is well adapted to life in harsh, arid lands. The Arabian camel has one hump, the Bactrian camel has two. The hump is, in fact, a store of fat which is used as a source of energy when food and water are scarce. When it does drink, the camel can take up to 100 litters of water in ten minutes.

The camel has broad, soft feet for a steady grip in the sand. A thick skin protects it from the fierce day time sun and bitterly cold nights. The camel’s eyes have three eyelids to help keep out sand; its ears and nose are also adapted to keep out sand storms.

Camels stand about two meters high at the shoulder and weigh 500-800 kilos. Often called “the ships of the desert”, they can carry loads of 200 kilos and more, travelling up to 160 kilometers a day.

(i) For what has the camel been used?

(ii) How is it useful on the fertile edges of the desert?

(iii) What is the use of the hump?

(iv) What is informed about its feet and skin?

(v) What information is given about its height and weight?

(vi) What has been told about its food?

(vii) Find out the word from the passage which means ‘of home or household’?

(viii) Find out the word from the passage which is opposite in meaning to ‘barren’?

**Q.2 Read the following Passage Carefully and answer the Questions.**

One of the most widely spread habits is the use of tobacco. Tobacco is now smoked or chewed by men, often by women, and even by children, almost all over the world. It was brought into Europe from America by Walter Raleigh four centuries ago, and has thence spread everywhere. I very much doubt whether there is any good in the habit if tobacco is not used in excess; and it is extremely difficult to get rid of habit when once it has been formed. Alcohol is taken in almost all cool and cold climates, and to a very less extent in hot ones. Thus, it is taken by people who live in the Himalayan Mountains, but not nearly so much by those who live in the plains of India. Alcohol is not necessary in any way to anybody. Millions of people are beginning to live without it entirely ; and once the United states of America had passed laws which forbade its manufacturing or sale throughout the length and breadth of their vast country.

(i) How is tobacco used by people?

(ii) From which country was tobacco brought into Europe?

(iii) In which region is alcohol used in India the most?

(iv) What habit is extremely difficult to get rid of?

(v) Who brought tobacco in Europe and when?

(vi) Find out the word from the passage which means ‘completely’?

(vii) Find out the word of passage which is opposite in meaning to ‘die’?

**Section B (Writing)**

**Q.3** Imagine that you are Sumit living in Jodhpur your friend Pritam has lost his mother. Write a letter to your friend expressing deep condolences on the death of his mother. You may touch upon the following points.

(i) How did you get the sad news of the untimely death of his mother?

(ii) How did you feel on his death?

(iii)When did you see his mother last?

(iv) What do you pray to god?

Or

Imagine that you are Sanskriti living in Jawahar Colony, Jaipur. You have passed the secondary school Examination recently. You have lost your mark-sheet. Write an application to the secretary, board of secondary Education Rajasthan Ajmer, requesting him to issue a duplicate copy of the mark – sheet.

**Q.4 Write a Paragraph in about 60 words with the help of the outlines given below.**

.................. mobile ....................keeps in touch................. parents...................... messages ......................... video ................ internet .................. result ..................... counseling ........................ cause diseases.................... attention diverted ........................ vulgar ...................... eyesight ......................

**Write a paragraph on ‘A scene at a polling station’ in about 60 words.**

Q.5 Look at the visual given about a house burnt down by fire. Write a paragraph in about 75 words on the topic telling about the harm caused by the fire.

**Section ‘C’ (Grammar)**

**Q.6 Fill in the blanks with correct forms of the verbs given in brackets:-**

1. The boys………(play) a football match at this time.

2. My mother………….(already take) her tea.

3. By the end of this month he………..(revise) his course.

4. He………………..(break) all the treaties and attacked his enemy.

5. A vegetarian is a person who never………..(eat) meat.

6. She washed clothes after Gopal……….(go) to office.

7. He had left before she ……….(tell)me his name.

8. She……….(take) tea when the maid rang the bell.

**Q.7 Put the most suitable words in the spaces to complete the following sentences choosing from the brackets given against each space:-**

The people……….(!)………( who / whom / whose / that ) live here believe in superstitions. They think that every incident is caused…………(2)……………..( by / in / on / into) good or bad omens. If someone tries to make them understand, they…………(3)……( do not agree / did not agree / will not agree / would not agree ) with him. That’s…………..(4)…………( what / why / when / which ) Superstitions are prevalent in society.

**Q.8 Rearrange the following words and phrases in meaningful sentences:-**

(1) yesterday / How many / attended / students / the class.?

(2) hands / possess / do not / animals

**Q.9 Rewrite the following sentences by transforming them from direct to indirect speech:**

(1) Radha: What will Mr.Anurag teach us today?

Sanskar: Mr.Anurag will teach us grammar.

(a) Radha asked Sanskar……………………………

(b) Sanskar replied that……………………………..

(2) Mary:Bring me a glass of water.

John: Wait a minute.

(a) Mary asked John ……………….

(b) John asked Mary……………………

**Q.10 Complete the following sentences by choosing the correct passive form of the verbs given:-**

(1) Since then I ………………to talk and haven’t been assigned any extra homework.

(a) has been allowed (b) have been allow (c) have been allowed (d) have allowed

(2) Rice…………..all over the world.

(a) is eating (b) is eaten (c)are eaten (d ) are being eaten.

**Q.11 Fill in the blanks with suitable modals given below:-**

( should, could, must, may, might, shall)

(a) You have completed your homework. Now you……………go home.

(b) He has became very weak. So, he……………give up smoking.

(c) Work hard lest you………..fail.

(d) He belonged to a poor family. there fore, he………..not buy a car.

**Section ‘D’ (Text books)**

**Q.12 Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

Writing in a diary is really a strange experience for someone like me. Not only because I’ve never written anything before, but also because it seems to me that later on neither I nor anyone else will be interested in the musings of a thirteen year old school girl. Oh well, It doesn’t matter. I feel like writing and I have an even greater need to get all kinds of things off my chest.

(i) What is really a strange experience ?

(ii) What makes writing in a diary a strange experience for Anne Frank?

(iii) What does Anne want to do?

(iv) Find out the word from the passage which means ‘Deep Thinking’.

**Q.13** **Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

He spent hours shuffling a rubber ball round the room like a four –footed soccer player using all four feet to dribble the ball, and he could also throw it, with a powerful flick of the neck, to a surprising height and distance. But the real play of an otter is when he lies on his back and juggles with small objects between his paws. Marbles were Mij’s favorite toys for this pas time: he would lie on his back rolling two or more of them up and down his wide, flat belly without ever dropping one to the floor.

1. How did Mij spend hours?

2. What is the real play of Mij?

3. How did Mij play with marbles?

4. Find out the word from the passage which means ‘a quick, light movement’.

**Q.14** **Answer any one of the following questions in about 60 words:**

1. What important decision does Maddie come to?(The Hundred Dresses II)

2. How can you say that the presence of the baker’s furnace is absolutely essential in the village?(Baker from Goa)

Q.15 **Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words:**

1. How does the quarrel between Lomov and Chubukov make us laugh?(The proposal)

OR

2. Why does Natalya decide to send her mowers to the oxen meadows?(The proposal)

**Q.16** **Explain any one of the following stanzas with reference to the context:**

“I would not intrude on him ;

A dime , another hall , is worthless. Now

He senses first responsibility

In a world of possession. People will take balls, halls will be lost always, little boy.

OR

The trees inside are moving out into the forest,

The forest that was empty all these days

Where no bird could sit

No insect hide

No sun bury its feet in shadow

The forest that was empty all these nights

Will be full of trees by morning.

**Q.17** **Answer any one of the following questions in about 30-40 words:**

1. What message does the poem ‘A Tiger in The Zoo’ impart?(A tiger in the Zoo)

2. How does a bear confuse a novice? (How to tell wild animals)

3. What is the theme of the poem?(Animals)

**Q.18** **Answer any one of the following questions in about 80 words:**

1. Give a character sketch of Oliver Lutkins.(The Hack Driver)

2. Give a character sketch of Horace Danby.(A question of Trust)

**Q.19** **Answer any one of the following questions in about 30-40 words:**

1. How would you assess Griffin as a scientist?(Footprints without feet)

2. How did Bholi’s teacher play an important role in changing the course of her life?(Bholi)

**Q.20** **Answer any one of the following questions in about 20-25 words:**

1. What does the thief say about the different reactions of people when they are robbed? (TheThief’s Story)

2. How is A usable different from other secret agents? (The Midnight)