

Creative Writing and Translation Studies
Class – XII
Sample Question Paper 2015

Time: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

SECTION A- Reading Comprehension (20 Marks)

Q1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: (7 marks)

For bizarre items floating in the ocean, try topping this: The upper half of a set of false teeth, seen bobbing around in the South China Sea.

“I remember thinking: ‘How on earth did it get there?’” said Lindsay Porter, a marine scientist.

The teeth, gripped in their plastic gums, are part of the millions of tons of plastic trash that somehow ends up in oceans around the world every year. Mostly, it is more mundane stuff, the flotsam and jetsam of everyday life: picnic plates, bottles, cigarette lighters, toys, spoons, flip-flops etc.

Taken together, the virtually indestructible mass is now so large that it is causing environmentalists, government officials and the plastics industry itself to sit up and take note. Many scientists believe marine plastic pollution is one of the major issues — along with climate change — facing the planet.

The problem is not the plastic itself: Even those who lobby against plastic pollution acknowledge that plastic materials help combat climate change, for example by reducing the weight — and thus fuel consumption — of vehicles, or by helping to insulate buildings.

Most of that ends up in landfills. Some is recycled. But a significant amount ends up in the sea, swept there via rivers or sewage drains, discarded on beaches or dumped from ships.

Exact figures are hard to come by, but some researchers estimate that 4.7 million tons reaches the sea each year, according to Plastic Oceans, a London-based charity that has enlisted numerous scientists to create a full-length documentary film on the topic.

Bear in mind that this stuff does not just biodegrade like food waste, wood or paper. Scientists believe it takes decades, if not centuries, for most types of plastic to degrade. That means virtually all the plastic material that has ever ended up in the ocean is still out there.

“When a plastic crate or bottle floats around in the ocean, it does not biodegrade. It only breaks into smaller and smaller pieces — which are still plastic,” said Peter Kershaw of the British marine science center Cefas, who helps advise the United Nations on marine environmental protection issues.

Some of the debris sinks to the ocean floor. Some washes back onto land, sometimes in remote and once-pristine parts of the world.

But most is gradually swept up by ocean currents, which have assembled the assorted mess into five “gyres,” or garbage patches, in the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian oceans.

Do not imagine these to be vast, tangible floating islands of trash that you can walk across. Yes, there are visible chunks of debris — some large enough to trap or choke wildlife. Mostly, however, the plastic soup consists of tiny fragments, some the size of a fingernail, some much smaller, floating on or below the surface across thousands of kilometers.

NEW YORK TIMES

On the basis of your understanding of the passage answer the following questions:

- | | |
|--|---|
| a) What is the chief concern of the author in this article? | 1 |
| b) Can plastic be advantageous to society in any way? | 1 |
| c) What is alarming about plastic soup? | 1 |
| d) Find a word in the passage which means the opposite of impure | 1 |
| e) Name a material that is biodegradable. | 1 |
| f) What is a gyre and how does it impact marine wildlife? | 2 |

Q2. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: (7 marks)

Maggie Tries to Run away from Her Shadow

Maggie's intentions, as usual, were on a larger scale than Tom imagined. The resolution that gathered in her mind, after Tom and Lucy had walked away, was not so simple as that of going home. No! She would run away and go to the gypsies, and Tom should never see her any more. That was by no means a new idea to Maggie; she had been so often told she was like a gypsy, and "half wild," that when she was miserable it seemed to her the only way of escaping opprobrium, and being entirely in harmony with circumstances, would be to live in a little brown tent on the commons; the gypsies, she considered, would gladly receive her and pay her much respect on account of her superior knowledge.

She had once mentioned her views on this point to Tom and suggested that he should stain his face brown, and they should run away together; but Tom rejected the scheme with contempt, observing that gypsies were thieves, and hardly got anything to eat and had nothing to drive but a donkey. To-day however, Maggie thought her misery had reached a pitch at which gypsydom was her refuge, and she rose from her seat on the roots of the tree with the sense that this was a great crisis in her life; she would run straight away till she came to Dunlow Common, where there would certainly be gypsies; and cruel Tom, and the rest of her relations who found fault with her, should never see her any more. She thought of her father as she ran along, but she reconciled herself to the idea of parting with him, by determining that she would secretly send him a letter by a small gypsy, who would run away without telling where she was, and just let him know that she was well and happy, and always loved him very much.

Maggie soon got out of breath with running. She stopped to pant a little, reflecting that running away was not a pleasant thing until one had got quite to the common where the gypsies were, but her resolution had not abated.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions:

- | | |
|--|---|
| a) What had Maggie decided to do? | 1 |
| b) How did Maggie expect to be treated by the gypsies? | 1 |

- c) 'Today however, Maggie thought her misery had reached a pitch at which gypsydom was her refuge...' What does the author tell us about Maggie's misery? 1
- d) As she was running Maggie thought that----- (complete the sentence) 1
- i. Her father would never forgive her.
 - ii. Tom would find her and then be cruel to her.
 - iii. The gypsies would be very kind to her.
 - iv. It was not very easy to run away.
- e) The word in the story which means the same as 'harsh criticism' is----- 1
- f) 'Even though Maggie was running away from home, she loved her father.' Do you agree? Give your reasons. 2

Q3. Read the poem and answer the questions that follow:

(6 marks)

Hope is the thing with feathers

Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul
And sings the tune without the words
And never stops at all

And sweetest in the Gale is heard
And sore must be the storm
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm

I've heard it in the chilliest land
And on the strangest Sea
Yet, never, in Extremity,
It asked a crumb of Me.

Emily Dickinson

- a) What does the poet compare Hope to? 1
- b) Name the literary device that the poet uses to make the comparison. 1
- c) In what ways do you find the bird remarkable? 2
- d) Do you think the poem relates to human life? Give 2 reasons. 2

SECTION B: Creative Writing Skills (20 marks)

Q4. A well-known champion of women's rights – Kalki Koechlin - was invited to address the 13th India Today Conclave on the occasion of International Women's Day. Kalki made a powerful speech championing the cause of women in India. In her speech she stressed that by merely reserving one special day for women, the International Women's Day, and doing lip-service one could not achieve anything unless they are treated on par with men.

Some of the things she spoke about were that-

Women

- are precious, special
- lack education, deprived of fundamental rights
- suffer from gross inequality

- must be treated on par with men
- must have a say in "what they want"
- should not be forced to be submissive
- society must fight the increasing atrocities against girls
- several tales of women who suffered at the hands of men and society
- plea to stop such persecution.

You were among the audience at the India Today Conclave 2014 and were greatly moved by Kalki's speech. Later on you made a diary entry reflecting on the issues raised and the impact of the speech on you. Write your diary entry in 200 words. (6 marks)

Q5. India is known for its wildlife, its sanctuaries and parks that boast of amazing flora and fauna. Given below are notes on the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary in Kerala. Use the notes to create a travelogue in about 200 words. (6 Marks)

The Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary

- Locale: in Kerala- beautiful lake, dense forest
- Fauna : 35 species like the Tiger, Asian elephant, Indian bison, Indian wild dog, viewed on a boat cruise in the Periyar Lake.
Nilgiritahr - restricted to higher rocky areas - danger of extinction
Lion Tailed Macaque –interior evergreen forests.

Panama Macaques and Nilgiri Langur -

- Birds: Migrants - 265 species; Malabar Grey Hornbill, The Indian Pied Hornbill, White bellied Treepie, many species of woodpeckers
- Reptiles: Cobra, krait, viper, a number of non-poisonous snakes
- Pisces (fish): various species of fish- popular Masheer-endangered game fish

Q6. Read the following opening lines of a story: (8 marks)

“One rainy day I had just had a hearty breakfast of hot alooparathas served with curd and pickle when I saw a lady stop by at my gate. She was carrying a walking stick in her hand at my gate. She was a middle-aged, short and well built. I noticed she was carrying a book in her hand that she held very tightly. The lady stopped, smiled at me and said, ‘Nice day for alooparathas, Isn't it?’ I was speechless!....

Complete the story. Keep in mind that it must have the following elements of a story: theme, setting, characters and plot.

SECTION C: Translation (20 Marks)

Q7. Given below is a passage in Hindi. Read the passage and complete the translation in English. (4 marks)

कुशलियां गांव के एक साधारण किसान की बेटी हिफजा की असाधारण प्रतिभा से उसके गांव के लोग गौरवान्वित महसूस कर रहे हैं। हिफजा को राष्ट्रपति पुरस्कार मिलने पर जिले का भी मान बढ़ा है।

आठ साल की हिफजा को नेशनल चाइल्ड एवार्ड फार एक्सेप्शनल एचीवमेंट के लिए चुने जाने पर गांव में जश्न का माहौल है। कज्जाफी बेग कहते हैं कि बिटिया ने उनका सिर गर्व से उंचा कर दिया है।

बड़ी से बड़ी गणना को बिना कैलकुलेटर के चुटकियों में हल कर देने वाली हिफजा बेग गांव के ही स्कूल में चौथी कक्षा में पढ़ती है। हिफजा को दुनिया के सभी देशों की राजधानी याद हैं।

Hifza, the daughter of an ordinary farmer Kazzafi Baig of Kushaliya village, has made the people of her village proud -----a).

The eight year old Hifza's selection for the -----b). Kazzafi Baig says that his daughter has made him proud and given him reason to hold his head high.

-----c) can calculate the biggest numbers within no time. She can also recall -----d).

Q8. Translate the following passage into English. (8 marks)

तेजी से बढ़ती हुई जनसंख्या व आर्थिक विकास के कारण भारत में कई पर्यावरणीय समस्याएं उत्पन्न हो रही हैं और इसके पीछे शहरीकरण व औद्योगीकरण में अनियंत्रित वृद्धि, बड़े पैमाने पर कृषि का विस्तार तथा तीव्रीकरण, तथा जंगलों का नष्ट होना है।

प्रमुख पर्यावरणीय मुद्दों में वन और कृषि-भूमिक्षरण, संसाधन रिक्तीकरण (पानी, खनिज, वन, रेत, पत्थर आदि), पर्यावरण क्षरण, सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य, जैव विविधता में कमी, गरीबों के लिए आजीविका सुरक्षा शामिल हैं।

भारत का अपने प्राकृतिक संसाधनों पर दबाव काफी बढ़ गया है। कई क्षेत्रों पर पानी की कमी, मिट्टी का कटाव और कमी, वनों की कटाई, वायु और जल प्रदूषण के कारण बुरा असर पड़ता है।

Q9. Translate this Hindi poem into English (8 marks)

हरिवंशराय बच्चन

कुए में उतरने वाली बाल्टी यदि झुकती है,
तो भरकर बाहर आती है...

जीवन का भी यही गणित है,
जो झुकता है वह प्राप्त करता है...

जीवन में किसी का भला करोगे,
तो लाभ होगा...
क्योंकि भला का उल्टा लाभ होता है।

और
जीवन में किसी पर दया करोगे,

तो वो याद करेगा...

क्योंकि दया का उल्टा याद होता है।

भरी जेब ने 'दुनिया' की पहचान करवाई और खाली जेब ने 'इन्सानो' की.

जब लगे पैसा कमाने, तो समझ आया,

शौक तो मां-बाप के पैसों से पुरे होते थे,

अपने पैसों से तो सिर्फ जरूरतें पूरी होती हैं।

"झोंपड़ी और महल में इतना ही फर्क होता है..,

झोंपड़ी पर लिखा होता है "सुस्वागतम",

महल पर लिखा होता है "कुत्ते से सावधान"

रब ने नवाजा हमें जिंदगी देकर;

और हम शौहरत मांगते रह गये;

जिंदगी गुजार दी शौहरत के पीछे;

फिर जीने की मौहलत मांगते रह गये।

ये कफन, ये जनाजे, ये कब्र, सिर्फ बातें हैं मेरे दोस्त,

वरना मर तो इंसान तभी जाता है जब याद करने वाला कोई ना हो...!

SECTION D: Text (20 Marks)

Q10. Attempt any 4 questions in 60-80 words each:

(3x4 = 12 marks)

- Your friend is a promising writer. Advise him/her about the four things he must avoid in order to be a successful writer.
- You have been asked to write a story for your school magazine. Which point of narration would you choose? Give reasons for your choice.
- Highlight the major differences between fiction and non-fiction.
- You are a journalist. Tell your friend about the major differences between hard news and soft news.
- In what ways does the setting of a story contribute to its success?

Q11. An inter school drama festival is being organized in your school. Your team has chosen to dramatize a short story. What are the factors you will keep in mind in order to make your play successful. (200 words)

(8 marks)

OR

What do you understand by the term translation? What factors have to be kept in mind in order to attain 'Translational Equivalence'?