

ENGLISH SAMPLE PAPER – 3**Teacher : Ansar Ahmed****School : A. P. Dept., Kolkata Madrasa**

Q.1. Complete each of the sentences which follow by choosing the correct answer from the alternative given : **1×4=4**

- (i) The Mohammedan passenger on the upper deck of the steamer was actually a _____ . [(a) tobacco dealer (b) hide merchant]

Ans. : tobacco dealer.

- (ii) Standing on the bench, Swaminathan could observe four heads wearing _____ . [(a) red caps (b) fur caps]

Ans. : red caps.

- (iii) The doctor asked the Secretary to fill out a card for the patient for the _____. [(a) Soaping room (b) Shaving room]

Ans. : shaving room.

- (iv) The type of problem of the Narmada Dam Project is _____. [(a) distributional (b) financial]

Ans. : distributional.

Q.2. Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words) : **3×2=6**

- (i) 'These jars contain water ...' Who are carrying these jars with them and why ? **1+2**

Ans.: There are four men carrying the jars. They are returning to their home in Nepal from a pilgrimage to Benares.

The jars contain water which the men have drawn from the Ganges at Benares. They will sell the water in their own and neighbouring villages on religious ceremonies.

- (ii) 'Oh, Mani ! I beg a hundred pardons of you.'

– Why does the speaker beg hundred pardon of Mani ?

Ans.: The speaker, Swaminathan had promised Mani to bring lime pickles. So when Mani asked him for it he begged him 'hundred pardons' and told him of his inability to bring the pickles.

- (iii) 'You'll have to go to the other chair'

– Who is the speaker ? Why does he suggest so ? **1+2**

Ans.: The shoe-shine boy is the speaker.

He suggests this because he is a left-handed and polishes left shoe only. As the patient offers his right shoe for polish, the boy asks him to go to the other chair.

(iv) Why does Kalahandi occasionally make headlines in newspapers ?

Ans.: Kalahandi is one of the districts in Orissa. It makes occasionally headlines in newspapers for excessive cases of starvation. The subsidence of the environmental source especially forests, has destroyed the traditional livelihoods of the people causing dreadful hunger and distress there.

Q.3. Answer any one of the questions which follow (in about 50 words) : 5×1=5

(i) “On this day custom ordained that I should remain in my house until ten o’clock”
– What is the day referred to here ? What is said about the day ? Describe briefly.

Ans.: The day referred to here is the Christmas Day. The speaker Jim Corbett here gives a description of his life and his workmen at Mokameh Ghat on Christmas Day. These people did not observe any kind of holiday even on their festival barring Christmas. The Christmas was a very special day which they celebrated with great enthusiasm and pleasure. It was a tradition that on that day Corbett should remain in his house until ten o’clock and punctually at that time Ram Saran dressed in his best clothes and an enormous pink turban would conduct him to his office for the Christmas programme.

(ii) “It is hot in summer and cold in winter”

– What is the description about ? Briefly state what happened to the pupil who made such statement.

Ans.: This is the description of the Indian climate given by Swaminathan in response to his Geography teacher’s second question. The first question the teacher asked Swaminathan was what Lisbon is famous for. Swaminathan answered that it was the capital of Spain. The teacher was angry at this foolish answer and then he fired the second question about the Indian climate. Swaminathan could not answer correctly any of the two questions. So the teacher asked him to stand up on the bench by way of punishment.

(iii) Why did doctor Follicle hesitate a bit for applying shampoo to the patient ?

Ans.: Dr. Follicle was a hairologist. He showed a little bit reluctance for applying shampoo to the patient because in his opinion the patient needed a shave first. He advised the patient to wait for the shampoo till the shave was over. He opined that the patient’s constitution would stand an immediate shampoo. But he could not recommend it without testing his heart. He was afraid that very often a premature shampoo in cold weather caused a painful nasal trouble.

(iv) What are the three main reasons, as detected by the authors, for being concerned about environmental degradation in India ?

Ans.: The authors have identified three reasons causing serious environmental degradation in India. They have found that many of the improvements achieved by economic prosperity have been harmed by environmental degradation. The second point shows that the environmental decline hampered sustainable development. The third reason brings out that the environmental plunder infringes distributive justice and the basic rights of the underdogs.

Q.4. Which of the following statements are True and which are False : **1×4=4**

- (i) The moon is isolated from the stars as its origin is different from that of the stars in the poem 'The Moon'.

Ans.: True

- (ii) In 'Where the Mind is without Fear' the word 'where' signifies an ideal place of bondage.

Ans.: False

- (iii) The poem 'Nature' is about the scenic beauties of nature.

Ans.: False

- (iv) In 'Futility' the old sun is kind because his presence helped life to sprout on earth.

Ans.: True

Q.5. Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words) : **3×2=6**

- (i) What for does the poet imagine the moon to be a 'shapeless mass' ?

Ans.: The poet imagines the moon to be a 'shapeless mass' when there is a waning moon. In this course the moon loses its full round shape gradually over a period of time. It's shapeless because it is proceeding towards new moon phase and steadily losing its own round shape.

- (ii) '... into the dreary deserts and of dead habit' – What is meant by 'dead habit' in the poem 'Where the Mind is Without Fear' ?

Ans.: The poet Rabindranath Tagore presents a very noble idea of absolute freedom in his poem, "Where The Mind Is Without Fear". Here the poet refers to the age-old accumulated habits and customs as 'dead habit'. These habits and customs are unhealthy and irrational but they could not be discontinued because they are regarded as permanent and to be followed mechanically. The poet seeks freedom from such bonds.

- (iii) "... takes away

Our play things one by one."

– What do our playthings signify ? Who takes it away ?

Ans.: The playthings mentioned here are the objects and our worldly possessions to which people have a deep attachment. The poet presents uniformity between the child's playthings and the possessions of the people on earth. A child plays with his toys the whole day. But at the end of the day he has to leave them and go for rest. Similarly peoples have to leave his worldly possessions when death comes. The nature takes away everything and leads to death.

- (iv) In what sense Owen has used the word 'futility' in his poem ?

Ans.: Futility is an emotional war poem by Wilfred Owen. It is short, simple and heartbreaking. The poet finds war an ugly and dirty business. It is a senseless butchering of young soldiers. War brings pain and forces humanity to death and destruction. Futility means uselessness. The unwanted and unfortunate death of the soldiers cannot be restored by the sun being the creator of all living beings. Thus the life on the earth seems to be futile.

Q.6. Answer any one of the questions which follow (in about 50 words) :

5×1=5

(i) “Wandering companionless

Among the stars ...”

Why does the poet trace out the moon as companionless even though she is surrounded by stars ?

Ans.: The poet P.B. Shelly presents the moon lonely and without any companion beside her in the sky, although it is surrounded by many stars. The poet is indicating the scientific truth that the moon originated from the planet, earth. But the stars co-existing in the sky did not generate from any planet. They are heavenly bodies of different origin. Thus the birth of the moon and the stars are different. Therefore, the moon being the only satellite of the Earth is isolated and is truly called ‘companionless’.

(ii) “Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake”

– What is meant by ‘heaven of freedom’ ? State briefly what kind of freedom that Rabindranath prays for his countrymen to achieve ?

Ans.: The great poet Rabindranath Tagore finds his country India in a state of ignorance, laziness, irrationality and narrow-mindedness. The heaven of freedom mentioned here suggests of fearlessness of the Indians from irrational customs, traditions, blind faith and dead habits. The falsehood, prejudice, believe in superstition, division of mankind in castes and creed have led Indians into a state of deep sleep. In sleep one is not aware of the real world. Consequently, he does not act or conduct to improve himself. The condition in India stands in this sorrowful state. So the poet prays to God to break this slumber of his country men and awaken them to the realization of true freedom which will lead them to progress and prosperity.

(iii) What relationship does Longfellow show between Nature and man in his poem, ‘Nature’ ?

Ans.: The poet H.W. Longfellow in his poem ‘Nature’ presents nature as a true loving mother. A mother cares for her child. The child getting tired after playing with its toys the whole day is led by the affectionate mother to bed. Similarly, nature too arranges for us to have rest in the eternal world at the end of our life-span. It takes away our treasured possessions one by one like the child’s playthings. We too refuse to give them just like the child but at the end we have to give up and go for an eternal sleep of death. Thus the poet has nicely depicted the bond of love and affection between man and nature.

(iv) “O what fatuous sunbeams toil

To break earth’s sleep at all”

– Why does the poet consider the toil of the sunbeams to break earth’s sleep fatuous in the poem ‘Futility’ ?

Ans.: Wilfred Owen is a war poet. He was an active soldier and was very much familiar with the horrors of war. The death and destruction of war has made him a pacifist. He expresses deep sympathy for the loss of young human lives.

The death of a young soldier in war could not be given a new life. The sun being the creator of life on earth itself is unable to bring back life to the dead. Hence, the sunbeams are called fatuous.

Q.7. Complete each of the sentences which follow by choosing the correct answer from the alternatives given : **1×4=4**

(i) The name of the convict's wife is

- (a) Jeanette
- (b) Marie
- (c) Mere Gringoire

Ans.: (a) Jeanette

(ii) "They are sold, madam"

Here they refers to

- (a) the silver candlesticks
- (b) furniture
- (c) silver salt cellars

Ans.: (c) silver salt cellars

(iii) Persome, you may leave us, this gentleman will excuse you. Here 'this gentleman' refers to

- (a) the convict
- (b) sergeant
- (c) bailiff

Ans.: (a) the convict

(iv) The convict was sentenced to

- (a) twelve years in the prison hulks
- (b) ten years in the prison hulks
- (c) eleven years in the prison hulks

Ans.: (b) ten years in the prison hulks

Q.8. Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words) : **3×2=6**

(i) Why did the Bishop sell his silver salt cellars ?

Ans.: Bishop sold the silver salt cellars to pay the rent of Mere Gringoire. She was very poor and could not pay her rent. The bailiff threatened to turn her out of the house if she does not pay the rent. So, she sought the help of the Bishop. The Bishop too had no money at hand. Consequently, the Bishop sold the salt-cellars for paying the rent.

(ii) What did the Bishop say to the gendarmes to save the convict from prison ?

Ans.: The Bishop told the sergeant that the convict was his friend. He further said that he had given him the candlesticks to him as a gift. The Bishop requested the sergeant to release him.

(iii) 'That is why they are left open'

– What does 'they' refer to ? Why are they left open ?

Ans.: They refers to the doors of the Bishop's house. They remain open for the people. A person in need may seek his help at any time. Again closing the door may cause inconvenience to the people.

(iv) 'There's gratitude for you !'

– Whose gratitude is challenged and why ?

Ans.: Marie, the maidservant of the Bishop's house is remarked as ungrateful by Bishop's sister Persome. Oneday on a cold winter night Bishop is away from home. Persome comes to know from Marie that Bishop has gone to see her ailing mother. At this Persome gets angry and calls her ungrateful for sending the Bishop out on such a cold night.

Q.9. Answer any one of the questions which follow (in about 50 words) :

5×1=5

(i) 'My punishment is just, but oh God, it is hard, it is very hard'

Whose punishment is referred to here ? What is the punishment ? Why is it very hard ?

Ans.: The Bishop himself is at the receiving end of the punishment. He considers the loss of the candlesticks, as a 'just punishment' for his strong love for them. There is a conflict within the Bishop's mind between his spirituality and materialism. The Bishop considers it a sin to have strong attachment to material objects like the candlesticks here. Again, on the other hand as a man of the world he cannot overcome the shock of losing the last gift from his mother. Thus, the Bishop has truthfully demonstrated his dilemma calling it 'hard' and 'very hard'.

(ii) Describe the thoughts of the convict just before he steals the candlesticks.

Ans.: The convict is in two minds before he steals the Bishop's candlesticks. He is very much allured to steal the beautiful silver candlesticks of the Bishop. His wicked instinct prevails upon him to grab the opportunity of the Bishop's absence. But his conscience disheartens him to do the inhumane act. He understands the kindness bestowed by the Bishop to him. He knows it that the candlesticks have been the last gift from the Bishop's mother to her son. But the evil in him argues that none cared for his own mother before sending him to jail. He also thinks of his jail-mates who would laugh at him for being a fool to miss this opportunity. So, he finally steals the candlesticks by giving in to his good feelings.

(iii) 'The Bishop's Candlesticks' is based on a famous novel by a famous foreign novelist. Name them. Briefly analyse how far the title of the play is significant.

Ans.: The play 'The Bishop's Candlesticks' by Norman Mckinnel is based on the famous french novel 'Les Miserables' written by Victor Hugo.

The title of the one-act play 'The Bishop's Candlesticks' is very significant and is in conformity with the play. The play moves round the silver candlesticks of the Bishop. These candlesticks influence the action of the play and also throw

light on the various characters. The Bishop loves the candlesticks very much since it's the last gift from his mother. A convict who tiptoed into the Bishop's house was tempted by those costly candlesticks. At last he stole them. Later he is caught by the police. But the Bishop tells the police that the man was his friend and he has gifted him those candlesticks. Thus he saves the convict. The convict is greatly moved by this act of kindness from the Bishop. He is ashamed and mends his character. Finally, he was reformed into virtuous man. Hence, the candlesticks stand for God's blessings which could purify a devilish soul.

Q.10.A. Rewrite the sentences which follow as directed, without changing their meaning : 2×5=10

- (i) They did not think of my mother. (Change the voice)
Ans.: My mother was not thought of by them.
- (ii) I wish Persome would not lock the cuphoard. (Split into two simple sentences)
Ans.: Persome would not lock the cupboard. It's my wish.
- (iii) 'Swaminathan, stand up' said the teacher. (Change into Indirect speech)
Ans.: The teacher ordered Swaminathan to stand up.
- (iv) I was responsible for the running of the steamers. (Rewrite using noun form of 'responsible')
Ans.: The running of steamers was my responsibility.
- (v) Always it woke him, even in France. (Turn into complex sentence)
Ans.: It woke him always even when he was in France.

B. Fill in the numbered blanks with appropriate articles and preposition : 3

- (i) This pleased Mani greatly _____ (1) _____ the first time that evening he laughed, and laughed heartily too. He shook Swaminathan and gave such _____ (2) _____ affectionate twist _____ (3) _____ his ear that Swaminathan gave _____ (4) _____ long howl. And then he suddenly asked, 'Did you bring _____ (5) _____ thing that I wanted ?'

Ans.:(1) for

(2) an

(3) to

(4) a

(5) the

C. With each of the following wh-words, frame a question in such a way that the answer matches the given content : 1×2=2

- (i) When :

Content : Rajam shouldered his gun and fired a shot in the air.

Mani was startled.

Ans.: When was Mani startled ?

(ii) What :

Content : I do not deal in hides.

I deal in tobacco.

Ans.: What do you deal in ?

Q.11.(a) Write a letter within 120 words to the editor of an English daily expressing your concern at the price hike of everyday commodities. 10

[inflation shot to a 13 year high of 11.05%, Government taking measures to give middle class relief from high prices, urgent need to look into this problem]

Ans.:To,

The Editor,

The Telegraph,

Kolkata-700 001.

Sir,

I would like to put forward my bitterness concerning the soaring prices of the essential commodities through the columns of your esteemed daily.

The hike in the price of everyday commodities has been telling upon the life of the poor masses in general. They do not have enough income to manage their daily basic needs. The inflation has touched to a record of 13 year high at 11.5%. The price of rice, bread, dal, sugar, egg, fish and vegetables have increased alarmingly. The cost of newspaper has gone up too. In short the peoples are having a very tough time.

It's truly encouraging that our state govt. has taken some positive steps to control the market price of the most needed commodities. The people living below the poverty line are being provided some relief. They are getting rice, dal, sugar and kerosene oil etc. at a subsidized rate. But the problem is undoubtedly a burning national issue.

Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of the central govt. to take necessary measures to control inflation.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully

Sana Malik

Dated : 25th Feb., 2009

33, Gora Chand Road, Kolkata-700 014

Mob. : 9831983123

OR

(b) Write a letter within 120 words to your friend describing the festival of your state you enjoy most. 10

[Name of the festival; when takes place; a brief description of the festival; your feelings]

Ans.:

**46F, Gorachand Road
Entally, Kolkata-700 014
22/02/09**

Dear Salik,

I am keeping well. How are you ? I received your letter a few days ago. I enjoyed your letter very much. I have shown it to some of my class friends. They loved your style of presenting your topic in the letter. In this letter I will give you a brief description of a famous festival of our state, West Bengal.

West Bengal is better known as a land of festivals. There are uncountable festivals since people of so many religions live here. The Durga Puja is the greatest Bengali festival. It is called the festival of the masses. It is celebrated for four days in the season of autumn. It brings a lot of joys to the people. The whole family gets together to celebrate the re-union and thus it strengthens the social bond. Every body makes a preparation in advance to meet the expenses involved in the festival. The new clothes, sweets, parties, and the Yagna are some of the special things associated with the festival. Every house serves delicious dishes to welcome the friends and relatives during the occasion.

I like puja the most since it's the festival when the members of our family stay together for a few days and have a good time.

I hope you have got a fair idea of the festival. Please plan for a visit to our place in this puja to have the thrilling experience. Rest is o.k.

**Yours loving
Michael**

- Q.12.(a) East Midnapore got inundated by the rain for several successive days. Write a report in about 150 words about the miserable condition of the flood victims – Lakhs of people wading through 20 to 30 km of neck-deep water in search of shelter; reluctantly having house; many got stranded leaving neither drinking water nor food ; rescue operation and distribution of food and drinking water by Government and NGOs.**

10

Ans.:

Flood Ravages Midnapore

Midnapore (West Bengal), Feb, 21 ; Floods ravaged large areas in the southern districts of West Bengal causing loss to life and property and disrupting normal life. The incessant rain over the past few days have inundated several villages in East Midnapore. More than a lakh of people have been left homeless. Mud houses swept away and concrete houses are under water. People have to wade through 20 to 30 kms of neck deep water in search of shelter.

The situation has turned grave and people are facing problems related to drinking water and food.

Rescue operation have started and speed boats have been deployed in several areas. About 1200 camps have been set up in the affected areas where those

rendered homeless are sheltered. The state govt. has been working on war footing to fight the situation. It has sought the use of air force helicopters to ensure drinking water and food supplies. Many NGOs have been working to help the victims.

OR

- (b) Write a summary of the passage which follows in about 100 words . 10

All desire success in life but few attain it. It will be found that the success of those who achieve it is due to their own initiative and exertion. On the other hand, the failure of the others is due to the fact that they did not exert themselves. They foolishly hope that something will turn up some day to their best advantage. These people more often than not come to grief. Again, to look for help from others betrays a lack of self-confidence. Help from others is most uncertain. It may or may not come.

Success does not come of itself. It does not fall from heaven. It is rather the reward of honest, sincere and devoted work. God in His eternal kindness has placed the key to success in our hands. We are only to seize it. Making the best use of the faculties with which we have been endowed is the only way to success. Nothing can below success on us – no idle dreaming, no wishful thinking bereft of the will and determination to achieve success. It is in this way through earnest efforts made that we can hope to receive the greatest blessing of God, that is, success in life.

Ans.: Success in life depends on one's effort to achieve it. An idle person cannot succeed in life if he leaves it to the heaven to help him since god helps those who help themselves. success demands honesty, sincerity, dedication and determination and those who have it is sure to strike the goal.

13. Read the passage below and answer the questions which below :

Those who say that at the time of Gurucharan's death his second wife was playing cards in the inner apartments are scandalmongers who would make a mountain of a molehill. In fact the lady of the house was seated with one knee folded under her resting her chin on the other, absorbed in eating watered rice with raw tamarind, green chillies and a hot prawn savoury. When she was called out, she left a heap of well-chewed drumsticks, and an empty rice-bowl, saying displeasedly, I don't even, get the time to swallow, a couple of mouthfuls of rice.

Meanwhile, after the doctor left saying there was no more to be done, Gurucharan's younger brother Ramkanai sat down by his side and said gently, 'Dada, tell me if you want to make a will'. Gurucharan replied in a faint voice, 'Write it down as I speak'.

Ramkanai took pen and paper and made ready. Gurucharan said, 'I bequeath all my immovable and movable goods and property to my wedded wife, Shrimati Baradasundari'. Ramkanai wrote – but he wrote with reluctance. He had cherished the hope that his only son Nabadwip would inherit his childless uncle's wealth and property. Although the two brothers lived separately, this hope had led Nabadwip's mother to keep her son from any kind of employment, and to marry him off early. Moreover as if to spite her enemies – the

marriage had borne fruit. But despite all this Ramkanai wrote down the will and gave the pen to his brother to sign it. What Gurucharan wrote in a failing hand might have been his signature or just a few wavering strokes of the pen : it was hard to tell.

When his wife arrived, having finished her watered rice, Gurucharan's speech had failed. At this she began to weep. Those who had been deprived of the covert property, said, "Crocodile tears !" But we should not believe them.

Having heard the details of the will, Nabadwip's mother rushed in and began an uproar, saying, 'One's reason fails when one's dying. When he had such a treasure of a nephew.... !

[Adapted from Rabindranath Tagore, selected Short Stories]

(A) Complete each of the sentences which follow by choosing the correct answer from the alternatives given : 1×7=7

(i) Baradasundari was

- (a) first wife
- (b) second wife
- (c) nearest neighbour.

Ans.: (b) second wife

(ii) In the will Gurucharan gave his property to

- (a) Ramkanai
- (b) Nabadwip
- (c) Baradasundari.

Ans.: (c) Baradasundari

(iii) When Gurucharan was at his deathbed, Baradasundari was

- (a) playing cards
- (b) finishing her lunch
- (c) consulting with physician.

Ans.: (b) finishing her lunch

(iv) After hearing the will Nabadwip's mother

- (a) started shouting
- (b) made arrangement of the funeral process
- (c) was engaged in merry-making.

Ans.: (a) started shouting

(v) Nabadwip was Gurucharan's

- (a) only son
- (b) one of the nephews
- (c) only nephew.

Ans.: (c) only nephew

(vi) On being asked whether he would make a will, Gurucharan

- (a) rejected the proposal
- (b) appreciated the proposal
- (c) remained silent.

Ans.: (b) appreciated the proposal

(vii) Having heard the intension of Gurucharan

- (a) Ramkanai was happy
- (b) Ramkanai was not at all happy
- (c) Ramkanai called for Nabadwip.

Ans.: (b) Ramkanai was not at all happy

(B) Answer the questions which follow (each in about 20 words) : 2 × 4 = 8

(i) What was Baradasundari doing when her husband was at deathbed ?

Ans.: Baradasundari was eating watered rice at the time.

(ii) Why did Ramkanai write the will with reluctance ?

Ans.: Ramkanai was expecting the will in his son's favour to inherit his brother's property but his brother wanted to will it to his wife. So he wrote the will with reluctance.

(iii) How was the signature of Gurucharan on his will ?

Ans.: Gurucharan's signature on the will looked as an scribbling made with a pen.

(iv) Why was Nabadwip kept out from any kind of employment ?

Ans.: Nabadwip was kept out of any employment because his mother was very much sure to inherit the wealth and property of Ramkanai's brother. So she fancied her son as a man of wealth in near future.

(C) Re-arrange the sentences which follow in their proper order : 5

- (i) Ramkanai wrote the will with reluctance
- (ii) Ramkanai's wife did not allow her son to marry.
- (iii) Gurucharan had no child to inherit his property.
- (iv) Gurucharan wanted to make a will.
- (v) Gurucharan requested his brother to write down his will.

Ans. iii – iv – v – i – ii