SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER
Subject : English (202)
Secondary Course

This question paper consists of 18- questions and 10 printed pages

Roll No: __________________
CODE NO: ————

Day and Date of Examination: ..............................................................

Signature of Invigilators:
1. ............................................................... 2. ...............................................................  

General Instructions:
1. Write your Roll Number on the first page of the question paper.

2. Please check the question paper to verify that the total pages and total number of questions contained in the question paper are the same as those printed on the top of the first page. Also check that the questions are in sequential order.

3. Making any identification mark in the answer book or writing the roll number anywhere other than the specified places may lead you to disqualification.


5. All answers must be written in the answer book provided to you.

6. In case of multiple choice questions, write only the correct answer from the choices given and indicate it in your answer book by writing (A), (B), (C), or (D) as the case may be. DO NOT write the statement or the word chosen by you.

7. In case of questions where you are required to fill in the blanks, the correct answer should be written in the answer book.

Time: 3 hours  
Maximum Marks: 100

The question paper consists of four sections:

Section A: Reading 15 marks
Section B: Writing 25 marks
Section C: Grammar 30 marks
Section D: Literature: 30 marks

Note: All questions are compulsory except where an internal choice is given.
In a city, never mind what it was called, there lived a small girl of about five. The little girl had a mother and no one else. They lived together, the two of them, not well, not badly, but life of some hardship. The mother was a charwoman—the income was meagre, every kopek had to be saved. But, the girl was fed, dressed and had shoes on her feet. And, the mother brought a lot of different goodies from the hospital—sometime candy, sometimes apples. The patients often gave her treats, especially when they were being discharged. They were too happy to bother about carrying things back and so gave them away to the little girl’s mother. They even gave away oranges. But patients who had oranges to give away were few and far between. Perhaps they went to other hospitals, or, perhaps they were discharged less frequently.

Anyhow this has nothing to do with oranges…

“We’ll still live,” the mother joked.

“We’ll still live,” the girl agreed.

Frankly speaking, the girl badly needed a wonderful blue ball, which she and her mother had seen in a toy shop. She felt she simply must acquire it for a truly happy life.

If you remember what it was like when you were five, you will understand what the girl felt when the blue ball finally turned up in the girl’s hands.

When the ball bounced, the little girl bounced and even mother gave a little bounce. Because happiness makes everyone bounce a bit.

*Charwoman:  *a woman who is employed to clean an office
*Kopek:  *name of currency/money used in Russia at that time.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions. Choose the best option wherever given.

1.1 The passage highlights: (1 mark)

A. the hardships of a widow

B. the sacrifices of a mother

C. the concern of a mother for her child

D. the gratitude of the patients in the hospital

1.2 When the author says, “If you remember what it was like when you were five,” he means that a five year old child: (1 mark)

A. feels happy with small gifts.

B. feels protected with her mother.
C. does not understand the problems of life.
D. does not know what he/she wants.

1.3. Pick out words from the passage which mean the opposite of:
   - A. plentiful
   - B. admitted

1.4. Complete the following statement:

   We know that the mother and daughter were generally satisfied with what they had when they say’……………………………………………………………………………….…..’

1.5. What did the girl want to have?

1.6. Mention any two things that the mother did which show that she cared for her daughter’s happiness?

Q.2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Gorilla is the largest of the great apes. A large male gorilla living in the wild may weigh 204 kilograms. Standing up on its legs, it may be about 6 ft tall. Females usually weigh 91 kilograms and are shorter than males.

Gorillas live in the rain forests of Central Africa. They are unaggressive creatures living in family groups led by a big male. Each group wanders in its own home range. During the day gorillas rarely travel much more than one kilometer because the leaves and shoots that they eat are plentiful in the forests where they live.

A gorilla’s day starts at dawn at about 6 a.m. when the party wakes and searches for food. From about 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. they rest. When the adults rest, younger apes wrestle with each other, play games and swing back and forth on vines. After this, the party travels through the forest again looking for more food until dusk i.e. about 6 p.m.

Gorillas are always on the move and never spend more than one night in the same place. They sleep in nests made of branches which they break or bend to make a crude platform either on the ground or in trees. Adult gorillas build their own nests while baby gorillas snuggle in with their mothers. A new nest is made everyday.

Because of hunting, destruction of rainforests and human wars that affect gorilla habitat, gorillas are now very rare. There are less than 400 gorillas left in the wild.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the questions that follow by choosing the best option provided below each question.

2.1 Why do gorillas make new nests everyday?
   - A. The nest becomes unusable after one night.
   - B. They move away to a new place.
C. Baby gorillas break the branches of the nest.
D. They eat up the leaves and branches of the nest.

2.2 Gorillas have become rare. Which of the following options is NOT a reason for this?

A. They are hunted by people.
B. Rain forests are being destroyed.
C. They are unaggressive creatures.
D. Human wars affect their habitat.

2.3 Which two things in the passage indicate that gorilla is the largest of the great apes

2.4 What do the baby gorillas do while adults rest?

2.5 What do gorillas do from 6 a.m. in the morning till 2 O’clock in the afternoon?

2.6 Pick out the word which means the same as ‘to get into a warm and comfortable position close to somebody.’

SECTION: B—WRITING

TOTAL MARKS: 25

Q.3. Read the telephone conversation given below:

Caller: Could I talk to Mr. Bhargava? I am R. N Verma from Nucleus Software.

Rohit: Sorry, he is out with the guests. I’m his son, Rohit.

Caller: Rohit, Your father had to attend a meeting at Chennai. The meeting has been postponed. Please inform him about the change so that he can cancel his flight.

Rohit: I’ll do the needful, Mr. Verma.

You are Rohit. You will not be at home when your father returns. Write a brief message to be left on his table.

Q.4. You had gone to a bank for getting a Bank Draft made in order to deposit the exam fee. It was a busy day at all the counters. Suddenly, three young robbers entered the bank building and started firing. There was commotion and terror all around. The robbers ransacked the cash boxes at the counters. They were about to leave when two young men appeared from nowhere and caught hold of them. This encouraged the other customers to act. Write a report about this incident in about 100 words for publication in the local newspaper.
Q.5. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper to convey your concern over the increasing level of water pollution in your area.

Your letter should cover the following points:

· Problems being faced by the residents due to lack of clean water.
· Ways and means to improve the situation—short term and long term
· Proposed action of the local residents for immediate solution.

You are Shreya / Naren

Q.6. Given below are three situations. Choose any one situation and write a paragraph on it in about 100 words.

(7 marks)

a) You have shifted to a new locality. You find that your neighbours are not friendly to you. State what would you do to make them friendly.

b) You are the only child of your parents. Describe the pleasure and pains of being the only child in the family.

c) You visited an old age home. Write a paragraph how you took care of the old persons for the whole day.

SECTION: C –GRAMMAR

TOTAL MARKS: 30

Q.7.1 (a) Read the following paragraph. (3 marks)

Heavy rains cause many problems such as water logging, traffic jams etc. This year the heavy rainfall has destroyed the wheat crop. It will affect the wheat supply in the market. Ultimately, the consumer will have to pay a heavy price for the food.

Rewrite the paragraph by filling in the blank. The first sentence of the report is given for you as an example.

Many problems such as water logging, traffic jams are caused by heavy rains. This year the wheat crop i) ————————————————————. The wheat supply in the market ii) ————————————————————. Consequently, a heavy price iii) —— ———————————————————— by the consumer for the food.

(b) Rewrite the following pairs of sentences as one. Use the appropriate words from the ones given in the box. One has been done for you as an example. (Note: there are more words than you may require) (3 marks)

when, because, while, but, where

Example:

a. She was doing her home work.
b. I went to see her.

She was doing her homework when I went to see her or When I went to see her, she was doing her homework.

i. a. You can take this dictionary.
   b. Don’t forget to return it before you leave.

ii. a. Mohinder was playing cricket.
    b. He broke his ankle.

iii. a. We couldn’t hear the speaker clearly.
    b. The mike was not working.

Q.8. Read the following passage. There are some numbered blanks in it. For each blank four options have been provided. Choose the correct ones to fill in the blanks. The first sentence has been done as an example. (6 marks)

Pollution is one of C serious problems– i) us. It is ii) __________ health hazard. Strangely enough the pollution is caused by all – iii) has been developed to make man’s life comfortable. Today, our life is comfortable no doubt, but, iv)________ what cost? Certainly, at the cost of – v. health. What is more important? Health or comfort!

Let’s think vi) __________ it.

Eg:   A. a B. an C. the D. many

i) A. for B. against C. before D. at

ii) A. a B. an C. the D. very

iii) A. this B. those C. that D. these

iv) A. on B. at C. for D. upon

v) A. my B. your C. their D. our

vi) A. for B. over C. about D. into

Q.9.1. Complete the following dialogue by filling in the blanks. (3 marks)

Mukul: Sorry, Vishal. I couldn’t attend your party as I had to go to NIOS office to submit my examination form.

Vishal: It’s Ok. But I missed you a lot.

Mukul: I too have to submit my form. Can you tell me (i) ____________________________ the NIOS office?

Mukul: It is in Sector 62, NOIDA.
Vishal: ii) ———————————————————— the last date to submit the form?

Mukul: 25th of September.

Vishal: Thank you iii). ———————————————————— the examination fee?

Mukul: Rs. One thousand only.

Q.9.2. Complete the following dialogue by filling in the blanks with suitable words. The first one has been done as an example.

(3 marks)

Rishabh to the librarian: Sir, I want to use the library facility. May I know the rules and regulations?

Librarian: Sure, the first thing is that you i) ———————————————————— carry your NIOS Identity Card because we don’t allow outsiders.

Rishabh: Alright. How many books ii) ———————————————————— I borrow from the library?

Librarian: You can borrow two books at a time. You iii) ———————————————————— return them after a month.

Q.10. You heard the following dialogue between Kartik and a bus conductor. Complete the report by filling in the blanks. (6 marks)

Conductor: Where do you want to go?

Kartik: I want to go to the Hindu College.

Conductor: Ten rupees for the ticket, please.

Kartik: I have a student’s pass.

Conductor: Show me the pass, then.

Kartik: Oh, sorry! I can’t find it in my pocket. Perhaps I have left it at home.

Conductor: In that case you have to buy a ticket.

Kartik: I don’t have any money.

Conductor: Then get off at the next stop. Sorry, I can’t allow you to travel without a ticket.

You report the dialogue to one of your friends. Complete the following report by filling in the blanks.

Kartik boarded a bus for his college. The conductor asked Kartik where he wanted to go. Kartik replied that i) ———————————————————— Hindu College. The conductor ii) ———————————————————— Rs 10 for the ticket. Kartik told the conductor that iii) ————————————————————. The conductor asked him to show the pass. But, Kartik couldn’t find it in his pocket. He told the conductor that perhaps iv) ————————————————————. The conductor asked Kartik to pay the money for the ticket. But Kartik said that v) ————————————————————.
The conductor asked Kartik to get off the bus at the next stop as he vi)

Q.11. Complete the following passage by filling in the blanks using correct form of verbs given in brackets.

(6 marks)

Mridula i) ______________________ (go) for evening walk daily. Yesterday, she ii) __________________________ (come) late from her office but she iii) ______________________ (do) not miss her walk. When she iv) __________________________ (return) home from her walk she found that her little daughter v) ______________________ (injure) her left wrist. She vi) __________________________ (rush)- her to the nearby doctor for first aid.

SECTION : D – LITERATURE

TOTAL MARKS: 30

Q.12. Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow (1 x 4= 4 marks)

Weavers, weaving at break of day

Why do you weave a garment so gay?

Blue as the wing of halcyon wild

We weave the robes of a new-born child. (Weavers)

a. What kind of garments do the weave make in the morning?

b. What are these garments compared to?

c. For whom are the garments woven in the morning ?

d. Name the literary device used in line 3 in the stanza.

Q.13. Answer the following questions in one or two sentences each. (2 x 2= 4 marks)

a. When the weak athlete fell down why did the other athletes go back ?

(Nine Gold Medals)

b. What according to the poet are the two things that can be achieved through sweet and soft words? (Truth)

Q.14.1 Complete the following statement by choosing the correct option. (1 mark)

The child says, ‘our cries are useless’ because ....

(My Only Cry: Close the Arms factories)

A. the adults are deaf.

B. the adults don’t pay heed.

C. the damage has already been done.
D. the cries are not loud enough to be heard.

Q.14.2. Tall trees are symbolic of …. (1 mark)
   A. Tall people.
   B. Great achievers
   C. Nature lovers
   D. People who help and protect others. (Tall Trees)

Q.15.1. Read the following passages and answer the questions that follow:

The well was highly useful to the people who lived in the surrounding huts. They had dug it two years before because the only water tap in the colony was not enough for the slum’s growing population. There had never been any money for a wall around the well. The mouth of the well had gradually widened as the soil and rocks on the sides fell in. The bottom was narrow, muddy and filled with weeds. (1 x 4 = 4 marks) (Kondiba-A Hero)

   a. How old was the well?
   b. Why had the people dug the well?
   c. How had the mouth of the well widened?
   d. Find the word in the passage which is close in meaning to – ‘by degrees’.

Q.15 2. It fell upon me, then ten years old, to feed the parrot, and it seemed quite happy to receive green chillies and ripe tomatoes from my hands, these delicacies being supplemented by slices of mango, for it was then the mango season. This also gave me the opportunity to consume a couple of mangoes while feeding the parrot.

One afternoon, while everyone was indoors enjoying a siesta, I gave the parrot its lunch and then deliberately left the cage door open. Seconds later, the bird was winging its way to the freedom of the mango orchard. (1 x 4 = 4 marks) (The Parrot Who Wouldn’t Talk)

   a. What did the author give the parrot for lunch?
   b. What benefit did the author have from feeding the parrot?
   c. Why do you think the author left the door of the cage open?
   d. Pick out the word that means ‘fruit garden’.

Q.16.1. Complete the following statement by choosing the most appropriate option given below: (1 mark)
The old artist’s son wanted to leave him because:………
A. he had a fight with him.
B. he was tired of working with his father.
C. stone carving was not paying enough.
D. all the other boys had left the village. (The Last Stone Mason)

Q.16  2. When Raja was stung by the bee, he………..
A. ran to his grandmother to tell her that he had been bitten.
B. said that he had been stung by a wasp.
C. ran from place to place in a state of alarm
D. thought he had been bitten by a snake. (snake bite)

Q.16.3. Choose the  right option to complete the following statement
Gandhi Ji and his relative decided to commit suicide because they ….
A. could not cope with the life’s problems
B. were disgusted with life
C. could not tolerate the idea of taking permission from the elders
D. wanted independence

Q.17. Answer any two of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each. (2 x 2 = 4 marks)
1. Mention two ways in which noise can prove to be harmful to human beings. (Noise)
2. According to the younger brother, in what two ways was Valodya better than him?
   (My Elder Brother)
3. What two pieces of advice did Pandit Nehru give to his daughter on her Birthday?
   (A Letter from a Father to a Daughter)

Q.18. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100 words: (5 marks)
Name the substance most recycled in many countries of the world. Describe the process of recycling. (New Goods From Rubbish)

OR

What opinion did the tiger form about human beings after entering the market? How was it different from the opinion he had earlier? (A Tiger Comes To Town)