

GREENLAWNS SCHOOL, WORLI
Terminal Examination 2016
English Language

Std: X
Date: 03/10/16

Marks: 80
Time: 2hrs

Q1) Write a composition (350-400) on any one of the following:- [25]

- a) While on a picnic, you and your friends decide to go rock climbing. Suddenly, a friend injures herself/himself after a landslide. Give a vivid account of the incident.
- b) Looking back at your childhood years of growing up and the time spent with your grandparents, share a memorable instance of playing pranks and having a lovely time with them.
- c) An evening walk, looked forward to with enthusiasm, turns out to be a disaster. Write a real or an imaginary account of such an occurrence.
- d) 'Large sums of money required for space programmes could be better used to help the poor in the developing countries,' express your views for or against the statement.
- e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be directly about the subject of the picture or may take suggestions from it, however, there must be some clear connection between the picture and the composition.



Q2 (Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question)

Select any ONE of the following:

[10]

a) Write a letter to the manager of the Western Railways complaining about the deteriorating state of the Shatabdi express train, as you had a bitter experience travelling from Mumbai to Delhi during the summer vacation as the compartments were infested with rodents.

OR

b) Write a letter of apology to your friend expressing your regret as you were unable to visit him or her during the person's hospitalization for over a week.

Q3 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

The Arab world's oldest market –the Mattrah Souk in Muscat is like an Alibaba's cave full of sparkly treasures. At the atmospheric Mattrah Souk in Muscat, Oman I'm engulfed by a gazillion sights ,sounds and smells. Arab world's oldest souk (traditional bazaar) is over 200 years old and its twisty alleys, roofed with wood and arterial lanes are utterly enchanting. Also known as 'The market of Darkness' due to its tightly packed shops that block sunlight during the day, Mattrah souk has an impeccable location – smack dab opposite the Mattrah harbor lapped by crystalline waves and amidst elegant buildings and mosques with tapering minarets. As I enter the bazaar, a muezzin's soulful call punctuates the air. The chaos in the market's innards is in direct contrast. I revel in the hodge podge of rows upon endless rows of tiny kiosks selling fascinating merchandise that would hardly be incongruous in Alibaba's cave.

I encounter a universe full of vibrant hues and eclectic people. There are robed Omani men, 'abaya' clad women and selfie snapping tourists. There are kiosks full of exquisite Kashmiri and Turkish carpets, bedazzling 'Mundoos' (jewel boxes), silky dish dashes (robes with unstructured silhouettes worn by Omani men) and striking handicrafts. Omani Khnajars (knives) stare back at me from everywhere: some encrusted with gemstones, others accoutered with tiny mirrors or even gold dust. 'One section of market's perfume laden alleyways is packed with shops stacked high with tubs of frankincense and bukhoor, Bedoun Jewellery and other exotica. In fact, Mattrah is the only market in the world where you can snap up gold ,frankincense and myrrh all under one roof.

I rifle through the racks of a shop selling frankincense, an aromatic gum resin obtained from an African tree and burnt as incense – legend has it that the sap was offered – along with gold and myrrh – by the three Magi upon Jesus' birth as it symbolizes spiritual good. These treasured items later became standard gifts to honor a king or deity in the ancient world: gold as a precious metal, frankincense as perfume or incense, and myrrh as anointing oil.

One of the most fascinating sections of the bazaar is the one retailing ittar (perfume). The shops display neat rows of gleaming transparent vials full of liquids in different colours. The gold and silver shops line the furthest end of the souk. In between, there are shops hawking handcrafted coffee pots, incense burners, rose-water sprinklers, henna, Arabic coffee and spices (oregano, dried limes, thyme, rosemary, dried chilli peppers, cinnamon, cloves). Buyers can be seen everywhere, in the thick of negotiations with stall owners or exploring every crevice of this historic marketplace. Surprisingly the Muttrah Souk is a less forceful environment than I'd envisaged. Expecting to be aggressively heckled by shopkeepers, I'm relieved to discover that I can walk around with touts pressuring me into parting with my precious Omani riyals.

As I turn a corner, suddenly my senses are tantalized by the aromatic smell of the storied Omani Halwa, a delicious and 'ghee'-laden caloric bomb. Neatly packaged and labelled in boxes, the confectionary – I'm told – moves faster than one can utter 'Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum'. Every few furlongs, I'm offered local perfumes to test by friendly shop clerks. Indian merchants are predominant. "When my grandfather used to retail here, dates and limes were offered in exchange for cloth, rice and coffee," Avtar Singh, a migrant from Ludhiana tells me as I inspect his wares. "For centuries, Mattrah Souk served as a trading hub for goods that passed through the Muscat harbor from India, China, Europe and other parts of the Middle East."

The Mattrah Souk is a delight to one's senses. It is a haven for shopping souvenirs and gifts. I pick up silk scarves, dates, jewellery and fragrant spices for friends and family. And of course, Omani coffee too. Every time I brew a cup back home, I taste a bit of Oman!

- a) Give the meaning of each word as used in the passage. One word answers or short phrases will be accepted. (3)
 - i) elegant
 - ii) incongruous
 - iii) haven
- b) Why does the writer say that the Mattrah souk has an impeccable location? (2)
- c) What does the phrase, 'eclectic people' imply? Which two commodities make the market a novel one in the whole world? (3)
- d) How does the writer portray the historic religious connection of the Christian world with that of Arab world's oldest market? (3)
- e) Mention the keepsakes picked up by the writer. (2)
- f) How had Mattrah souk encouraged the barter system in the olden days? (2)
- g) In not more than 60 words of your own, describe the assortment of alluring wide-ranging items available in the market that make it a fascinating place. (8)
- h) Suggest a suitable title to the summary and justify it. (2)

Q4 In the following passage fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in the correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate in the blank space. [4]

Rising from the sea like a goddess, the island nation of Cyprus sweeps you off your feet with ancient monuments. Cyprus has the distinction of _____(1)_____ (be) the birthplace of Aphrodite-Goddess of Love and Beauty. With such a legendary background it is hardly _____(2)_____ (surprise) that Cyprus _____(3)_____ (develop) into a _____4_____ (tour) destination. It _____(5)_____ (bless) with natural beauty that ranges from golden beaches to _____(6)_____ (roll) hills. To walk through its old streets is _____(7)_____ (step) backwards in time. Old houses with ornate balconies peep from weather-beaten walls, and craftsmen in small workshops practice trades not _____(8)_____ (change) for centuries.

b) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words. [4]

1. He worked _____ his capacity.
2. The drains are clogged _____ plastic bags.
3. I take exception _____ your insolent behaviour.
4. Her request for a transfer was turned _____.
5. He found himself _____ pressure to grant the request.
6. The planet was seen _____ the telescope.
7. I prefer walking _____ cycling.
8. The deal fell _____ after the plane crash.

c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using 'and', 'but' or 'so'. [4]

- a) He has failed many times. He still hopes to succeed.
- b) I speak the truth. I am not afraid of it.
- c) He is clever. He can not be deceived.
- d) The clown amuses us. He shows us funny tricks.

d) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. [8]

- i) We had sat down before the meal arrived. (scarcely, when)
(Insert the adverbs in the correct position)
- ii) Seeta did not apply for the job and she regrets it now. (Begin: Seeta wishes.....)
- iii) Kindly check the furniture before signing the delivery note. (Begin: Don't)
- iv) They had to spend a night in a hotel because the train was late. (Begin: If)
- v) He said to us, "Are you going away today?" (Begin: He.....)
- vi) John has probably forgotten the date of the examination. (Begin: In.....)
- vii) She found your keys in the garage. (Begin: The keys.....)
- viii) No sooner did we light the candle than the power supply was restored. (Begin: Hardly....)
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