

GREEN LAWNS HIGH SCHOOL  
TERMINAL EXAMINATION YEAR 2017

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
TIME: 2 HOURS

CLASS: VIII  
MARKS: 80

SECTION I  
COMPOSITION

Q1. Write an interesting composition of about 300 - 350 words on any one of the following topics you must use at least five of the words from the given word bank: (25)

a) What India needs today is another form of government? Give your views for or against this statement.

[Word bank: reformation, political, economic, development, society, rights, duties, progressive, hindrance, achievement]

b) While on a picnic you and your friends decide to go sailing. Unfortunately, your boat capsizes in a violent storm. However, all of you manage to swim to safety. Give a vivid account of the incident.

[Word bank: breathtaking, exhilarating, experience, mishap, rescued, terrified, hovered, tragedy, instructions, excited]

c) A school carnival or fete is a great occasion for fun with friends. Describe one such event in your school.

[Word bank: excitement, organized, meticulously, opportunity, responsibility, mastermind, success, enjoy, attraction, guidance]

d) Write an original story that begins with words: It wasn't going to be easy she knew, she had to confront him.....

[Word bank: angry, silent, courage, predicament, convinced, upset, thoughtful, observant, lucky, heaved a sigh of relief]

e) Study the given pictures. Build up a story or a description of what it suggests to you. There must be connection between the pictures and the composition.





QII Letter writing

(10)

a) Write a letter to the Director of the Rajasthan Roadways Board complaining about the inconvenience passengers have been through because of the unhygienic and inadequate facilities on the roads.

OR

b) Write a letter to a friend suggesting a cheap and enjoyable holiday resort during his/her visit to a hill station.

QIII. Reading Comprehension

Read the following passage and answer the following questions.

(25)

Across the river Nile from the site of Thebes, former royal city of ancient Egypt, lies a lonely valley hidden among the cliffs. Here, the Pharaohs, who ruled Egypt at the height of her imperial glory, were buried 3000 years ago, together with their treasures.

A great deal of our knowledge of Egypt's past is from archeological finds made in this valley. One of the most important finds was made by Howard Carter, a young Englishman, who, in 1907, joined an expedition led by Lord Carnarvon, an experienced archaeologist. Their ambition was to dig among the tombs in the Valley of the Kings. But the Egyptian government did not give permission until 1914 for this to begin and by then, most of the burial places had already been discovered.

Carter believed that one tomb remained undiscovered ---- that of Tutankhamen, an obscure boy king who ruled in the 14<sup>th</sup> century BC. So from 1917 to 1922, Carter and his workmen, in their search for the lost tomb, removed mountains of rubble from former excavations. Finally, only one small triangle of land remained undisturbed in front of the well-known tomb of Rameses VI.

On November 1, 1922, Carter's workmen began cutting a trench and lifting soil on this triangle and they soon made a wonderful discovery. They found a step cut in the rock.

They worked feverishly and, after five days, they had uncovered a sunken, roofed stairway leading down into the rock. At sunset, at the twelfth step, part of a blocked and sealed doorway was revealed.

Once the stairway to the tomb had been cleared and the entire door uncovered, Carter could clearly see royal seals on the lower half. They belonged to Tutankhamen. But the seals were broken too.

Hastily, workmen dug away the rubble, until the whole door was clear. Carter made a hole in the door and inserted a light. "Can you see anything?" asked Lord Carnarvon eagerly.

"Yes..... wonderful things," answered Carter.

The entire treasure of this long closed storehouse were not to be identified fully until later, but they included couches on which the king had rested, chests, vases and a chariot, headed up in confusion had remained in darkness until the light, which Carter now held, was reflected back in the unmistakable gleam of gold.

There was no coffin to be seen in chamber, but two sentinels ---- life-sized statues of the young king himself in golden kilt and sandals guarded yet another sealed doorway.

But first Carter and his men had to get into the ante-room itself.

On November 27, the door was removed and they entered. It was a wonderful moment. The king's magnificent possessions lay among the tumbled remains of chariots and beside a couch stood the king's own throne of gold.

One more sealed doorway remained to be opened, the entrance to the young king's burial place. Once this had been opened, Carter saw an immense god shrine which filled most of the chamber. A low doorway led into yet another room. In this was a great black figure of a jackal



guarding the greatest treasure so far discovered ---- a golden shrine protected by four small guardian goddesses.

The room held other precious objects ---- caskets, shrines and a reed torch. Round the room were wooden and alabaster models of boats with sails, figures and chariots.

When, at last, the lid of the stone sarcophagus within the shrines was raised, Carter saw a magnificent, gold outer coffin. This contained two more coffins nestling inside each other. The final coffin was made of solid gold so heavy that four men could not lift it, and it was encrusted with jewels. Inside it was the actual mummy of the king with the golden death mask of a sensitive young face.

This mummy, adorned with rings and amulets, was the remains of the king who was only 18 when he died in the 14<sup>th</sup> century BC. He was probably crowned at twelve, and many of his playthings, as well as jewels, seals, weapons and clothes were found in the tomb.

The treasures have been put on exhibition in Cairo Museum, but the king's body has been allowed to remain in its coffin, where it was laid to rest so long ago.

- A) Give meanings of the following. (3)
- obscure
  - feverishly
  - adorned

- B)
- Name the archaeologists mentioned in the passage. (2)
  - What was the ambition of the archaeologists? Why? (3)
  - Who was Tutankhamen? (1½)
  - What remained undisturbed for a long time? (3)
  - Why were the seals of the tomb broken? (1½)
  - How long did it take to find the tomb? (½)
  - What did the men find in the ante-room? (3)
  - What protected the shrine? (1)
  - What other things did the room have? (1½)
  - What was kept inside the sarcophagus? (3½)
  - Where is the treasure now? (1½)

QIV GRAMMAR (20)

- a) Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs. (2)
- Mani and Tara (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) back home from school when they (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (hear) a whimper. They (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (look) around and Tara (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (spot) a puppy trapped in a bush.
- b) Rewrite using the adjective form of the underlined word. (2)
- We drifted in to a world of mystery.
  - His story can be an inspiration.
- c) Fill in the blanks with *a*, *an* and *the* where necessary. (2)
- Why are you in \_\_\_\_\_ hurry? Why don't you stay for some more days and enjoy \_\_\_\_\_ scenic beauty of \_\_\_\_\_ snow-clad peaks of \_\_\_\_\_ Himalayas.
- d) Fill in the blanks with the proper forms of the words given in the brackets. (2)
- \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are directly related. (educate, prosper)
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ of women is possible only through giving them financial \_\_\_\_\_. (empower, free)
- e) Insert the adverb given in the brackets in the right place. (2)
- Tapan aimed well but missed the waste paper basket. (entirely)

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2. Our parents were overprotective towards us. (always)
3. Eddy forgets to show up at the concert. (sometimes)
4. Nitin comes to work on time these days. (seldom)

- f) Join the sentences using appropriate conjunctions. (2)
1. He is an honest man. I cannot trust him with money.
  2. They could hardly see each other. It was very dark.
- g) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words. (2)
1. It has been snowing here \_\_\_\_\_ last Friday.
  2. Do you think we will go to Mars \_\_\_\_\_ the near future.
  3. Let's wait \_\_\_\_\_ it stops raining.
  4. He has been driving continuously \_\_\_\_\_ ten hours now.
- h) Fill in the blanks with suitable verbs given in the brackets. (2)
1. There \_\_\_\_\_ no originality of ideas in this essay. (is, are)
  2. The horse and carriage \_\_\_\_\_ at the door. (is, are)
  3. The jury \_\_\_\_\_ expressed their dissatisfaction at the door. (has, have)
  4. The food available at the hotel \_\_\_\_\_ really delicious. (was, were)
- i) Change the speech of the following sentences. (3)
1. The captain said, "The aircraft will be taking off in a few minutes."
  2. "Hurrah! We have overcome all our obstacles," the boys said.
  3. The teacher said to Shivani, "Which lines of this poem have you not understood?"
- j) Frame a sentence using the following idiom. (1)
- black sheep -