

**GREENLAWNS HIGH SCHOOL  
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION YEAR 2019**

**SUBJECT : ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**CLASS : X**

**TIME : 2 HOURS**

**MARKS : 80**

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Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.  
You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.  
This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.  
The time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.  
Attempt all five questions.  
The intended marks for questions are given in brackets. [    ]  
You are advised to spend not more than 30 minutes in answering Question 1 and 20 minutes in answering Question 2.

**Question 1**

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question) [20]

Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following.

- a) Write a short story based on the proverb:  
"Actions speak louder than words."
- b) Pollution poses severe threats to human life. Mention important causes of pollution in your locality, its harmful effects and how it can be checked.
- c) Teenagers of today are more influenced by their friends than by their parents. Give your views either for or against the statement.
- d) Describe a situation when you were deprived of a necessity and how it led you to learn a lesson from it.
- e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



Question 2

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

[10]

Select one of the following:

- a) Write a letter to your younger brother living in a boarding school in Mumbai, advising him about what precautions he should take to protect himself from dengue.
- b) Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner, complaining about the acute water shortage in your area and request him to look into the problem immediately.

Question 3

[10]

- a) As the Head Boy of the school, write a notice informing the students about a special lecture to be delivered by a famous writer on the art of writing children's stories. Give the details of the programme to create an awareness about the event.
- b) Write an e-mail to a famous children's books author, inviting him/her to give a lecture about the art of writing children's stories. Give reasons as to what is the objective of this lecture. Convey all the necessary details about this event.

Question 4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: [20]

The frigate approached noiselessly, stopped at two cables' length from the animal, and followed its track. No one breathed; a deep silence reigned on the bridge. We were not a hundred feet from the burning focus, the light of which increased and dazzled our eyes.

At this moment, leaning on the forecastle bulwark, I saw below me Ned Land grappling the martingale in one hand, brandishing his terrible harpoon in the other, scarcely twenty feet from the motionless animal. Suddenly his arm straightened, and the harpoon was thrown. I heard the sonorous stroke of the weapon, which seemed to have struck a hard body. The electric light went out suddenly, and two enormous waterspouts broke over the bridge of the frigate, rushing like a torrent from stem to stern, overthrowing men, and breaking the lashings of the spars. A fearful shock followed, and, thrown over the rail without having time to stop myself, I fell into the sea.

This unexpected fall so stunned me that I have no clear recollection of my sensations at the time. I was at first drawn down to a depth of about twenty feet. I am a good swimmer, and in that plunge I did not lose my presence of mind. Two vigorous strokes brought me to the surface of the water. My first care was to look for the frigate. Had the crew seen me disappear? Had the Abraham Lincoln veered round? Would the captain put out a boat? Might I hope to be saved? The darkness was intense. I caught a glimpse of a black mass disappearing in the east, its beacon lights dying out in the distance.

'Help!' This was my last cry. My mouth filled with water; I struggled against being drawn down the abyss. Suddenly my clothes were seized by a strong hand, and I felt myself quickly drawn up to the surface of the sea; and I heard, yes, I

heard these words pronounced in my ear: 'If master would be so good as to lean on my shoulder, master would swim with much greater ease.' I seized with one hand my faithful Conseil's arm.

'Is it you?' said I, 'you?' 'Myself,' answered Conseil; 'and waiting master's orders.' 'That shock threw you as well as me into the sea?' 'No; but, being in my master's service, I followed him.'

The worthy fellow thought that was but natural. 'And the frigate?' I asked. 'The frigate?' replied Conseil, turning on his back; "I think that master had better not count too much on her.' 'You think so?' 'I say that, at the time I threw myself into the sea, I heard the men at the wheel say, "The screw and the rudder are broken."

'Broken?' 'Yes, broken by the monster's teeth. It is the only injury the Abraham Lincoln has sustained. But it is a bad lookout for us - she no longer answers her helm.' 'Then we are lost!' 'Perhaps so, calmly answered Conseil. 'However, we have still several hours before us, and one can do a good deal in some hours.' Conseil's imperturbable coolness set me up again. I swam more vigorously; but encumbered by my clothes, which stuck to me like a leaden weight, I felt great difficulty in bearing up. Conseil saw this. 'Wait master let me make a slit', said he; and, slipping an open knife under my clothes, he ripped them up from top to bottom very rapidly. Then he cleverly slipped them off me, while I swam for both of us.

#### Question 4

- a) Give the meanings of each of the following words as used in the passage. One word answers or short phrases will be accepted. (3)
- i. torrent -
  - ii. vigorous -
  - iii. encumbered -
- b) Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words.
- i. How did the writer fall into the sea? (3)
  - ii. What effect did the fall have on the writer? (3)
  - iii. What made the writer feel desperate? What was his immediate reactions in his desperation? (3)
- c) In not more than 50 words, state who assisted the writer in many different ways? (8)

#### Question 5

- a) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. (4)

Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space.

Example : (o) \_\_\_\_\_ (look)

Answer : looked

The sniper (o) \_\_\_\_\_ (look) at his enemy (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (fall) and he (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (shudder). The lust of battle (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (die) in him. He was

- (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (fill) with remorse. The sweat stood out in beads on his forehead.  
(5) \_\_\_\_\_ (weak) by his wound and the long summer day of (6) \_\_\_\_\_  
(fast) and watching on the roof, he (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (feel) sick at the sight of the  
shattered body of the dead enemy. His teeth chattered, and he began to mutter  
senselessly to himself, (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (curse) the war.

b) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words: (4)

- i. She was \_\_\_\_\_ tears when she heard her unkind remarks.
- ii. I cannot back \_\_\_\_\_ from the promise I made to his parents.
- iii. The old lady looks \_\_\_\_\_ to her son's visit every month.
- iv. We should rise \_\_\_\_\_ petty quarrels.
- v. The packet of candy was divided \_\_\_\_\_ the remaining children.
- vi. We must not run \_\_\_\_\_ false dreams.
- vii. I ran \_\_\_\_\_ an old classmate of mine at the Metro station.
- viii. Rehan asked me to slow \_\_\_\_\_ when we came close to the hill.

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

- i. Rita is a singer. Sarita is a singer.
- ii. He did not come to school today. He did not inform the school office.
- iii. He comes to my home every day. I do not like it.
- iv. We were thirsty and hungry. No one offered any help.

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. As soon as the film star entered the mall he was mobbed by his fans.  
(Begin : No sooner...)
- ii. The mother showed the child the moon.  
(Begin: The moon...)
- iii. Very few Indian athletes are as successful as P.T. Usha.  
(Change the degree)
- iv. He said to her, "I visited your house yesterday." (*Change to Indirect Speech*)
- v. The speaker's words were so indistinct that we could not understand  
her.  
(Use: 'too')
- vi. As soon as the sports meet ended, the children ran on the field.  
(Begin: Hardly...)
- vii. The judge said that he was innocent.  
(Use: innocence)
- viii. If you do not study diligently, you will never understand Mathematics.  
(Begin: Unless...)