

Greenlawn high School, Mumbai

Preliminary Examination 2021

Time: 1.5 hours

English Language

Marks: 60

Std. X A / B / C

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 four questions.

Question 1:

[10]

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

- While travelling on a bus you notice a pick pocket quietly removing a man's wallet. You immediately raise an alarm. Narrate what happened after that.
- You visited the stadium on the day of an important match, with your family members or friends. Describe in detail the scene you witnessed and your feelings on the occasion.
- Success comes with luck and not with hard work. Give your views either for or against the statement.
- Begin an original story with the words – "A foolish man and his money are soon parted....."
- Study the picture given below: Write a story on 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:**[10]**

Select **any one** of the following:

- a. The unsanitary conditions in your colony are causing multiple diseases. Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner bringing the problem to his notice and request him to take urgent action in the matter.
- b. Write a letter to your friend congratulating him/her on his/her success in Class 12 board examination.

Question 3:**[20]**

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

Richard Parker was so named because of a clerical error. A panther was terrorising the Khulna district of Bangladesh, just outside the Sundarbans. It has recently carried off a little girl. She was the seventh person killed in two months by the animal. And it was growing bolder. The previous victim was a man who had been attacked in broad daylight in his field. The beast dragged him off into the forest and his **corpse** was later found hanging from a tree. The villagers kept a watch nearby that night, hoping to surprise the panther and kill it, but it never appeared.

The Forest Department hired a professional hunter. He set up a small, hidden platform in a tree near a river where two of the attacks had taken place. A goat was tied to a stake on the river's bank. He hunter waited several nights. He assumed the panther would be an old, wasted male with worn teeth, incapable of catching anything more difficult than a human. But it was a sleek tiger that stepped into the open one night: a female with a single cub. The goat bleated. Oddly, the club, who looked to be about three months old, paid little attention to the goat. It raced to the water's edge, where it drank eagerly. Its mother followed it. Of hunger and thirst, thirst is the greater urge. Only once the tiger had **quenched** her thirst did she turn to the goat to satisfy her hunger.

The hunter had two rifles with him: one with real bullets, the other with immobilising darts. This animal was not a man-eater, but was so close to human habitation that she might pose a threat to the villagers, especially as she was with cub. He picked up the gun with the darts. He fired as the tiger was about to attack the goat. The tiger **reared** up and snarled and raced away. But immobilising darts don't bring on sleep gently, they knock the creature out without warning. A burst of activity on the animals' part makes it act all the faster.

The hunter, whose name was Richard Parker, picked it up and with his bare hands and remembering how it has rushed to drink in river, named it Thirsty. But the shipping clerk at the Howrah train station was evidently a man both confused and diligent. All the papers received with the cub clearly stated that its name was None Given. Richard Parker's name stuck. I don't know if the hunter was ever called Thirsty None Given!

a. Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage:
One-word answers or short phrases will be accepted. (3)

- i) corpse
- ii) quenched
- iii) reared

b. Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:

- i) Why does the author say that the panther "was getting bolder"? (3)
- ii) What did the hunter expect to encounter? What did he actually encounter? (3)
- iii) What did the tiger do before turning to attack the goat? Why did it do that? (3)

c. In not more than 50 words narrate how the hunter and his assistants captured the tigress and her cub. [8]

Question 4:

[20]

a) 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 correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. (4)

Example:

(0) was travelling

A poor Arab _____(0) (travel) in the desert, thirsty and tired.

When he saw an oasis, he drank some water from it and ____ (1)

(feel) it was very sweet. ____ (2) (fill) his leather bottle with the

water, he continued his journey to Baghdad. After _____(3)

(secure) an audience with the Caliph then, he presented him with

the leather bottle of water. It was the only gift he had. The Caliph

received the gift and drank some water from it. He rewarded the

Arab for his gift. All the courtiers were eager _____(4) (taste) the

wonderful water. But the Caliph denied them the privilege.

When the Arab departed the Caliph explained why he _____ (5)

(act) so strangely. The water in the leather bottle because of its

long storage _____ (6) (have) a foul smell. He knew that if the

others had tasted the water, they _____ (7) (show) their disgust and the poor man's _____ (8) (feel) would have been hurt.

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

- i. Our stock of fuel has run _____.
- ii. The question came _____ during the last session of the Parliament.
- iii. We are looking _____ to the visit of our grandmother.
- iv. Malaria has broken _____ in the town.
- v. The winter season has set _____.
- vi. Burglars broke _____ the shop at night.
- vii. The school will bring _____ the annual magazine.
- viii. The man has not changed much _____ the years.

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

- i. He has won the first prize. I am pleased to announce it.
- ii. The students stopped making a noise. They saw the teacher.
- iii. Reena was praised by all. She looked pleased.
- iv. The cloud disappeared. The sun shone brightly.

d) Re-write 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. Who wrote the book, 'Twenty Thousand League Under the Sea'? (Change the voice)
- ii. If he does not hurry, he will not catch the train.
Begin: Unless
- iii. Sameer has not seen his parents for ages.
Begin: It is.....
- iv. Mother said, "I am sure he will help you if you ask him."
(Change to Indirect Speech)
- v. As soon as we had seated ourselves in the hall the movie began. (Begin: Hardly.....)
- vi. Darjeeling is the most famous tea-growing area of the world. (Change the Degree)
- vii. Everyone will admit that he is honest.
Begin: Nobody
- viii. I earnestly desire to win the prize. (Change to exclamatory)

~~~~~The End~~~~~

