

PT-2

HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION 2022-23

Class X

ENGLISH

Time : 3 hrs.

Marks : 80

Instructions

Question Paper is divided in to three sections

Section A-Reading, Section B-Writing & Grammar, Section C- Literature

All questions are compulsory.

SECTION - A - READING SKILLS

I. Read the passage given below

We have but one method of acquiring knowledge. From the lowest man to the highest yogi, all have to use the same method, and that method is called concentration. Concentration implies, first, an ability to release one's thoughts and emotions from all other interests and involvements, and second, an ability to focus them on a single object or state of awareness. Concentration may assume various manifestations, from a dynamic outpouring of energy to perfectly quiescent perceptions. On every level of mental activity, it is the concentration that is the key to success. What is not generally known is that a concentrated mind succeeds not only because it can solve problems with greater dispatch, but also because problems have a way of somehow vanishing before its focused energies, without even requiring to be solved. A concentrated mind often attracts opportunities for success that, to less focused individuals, appear to come by sheer luck.

The chemist who works in his laboratory concentrates all the powers of his mind, brings them into one focus, and throws them on the elements, and the elements stand analyzed, and thus his knowledge comes. The astronomer also concentrates the powers of his mind and brings them into one focus and then throws them onto objects through his telescope and stars and systems roll forward and give up their secrets to him. So it is in every case—with the professor in his chair, the students and his books—with every man who is working to know.

The more this power of concentration is, the more is the knowledge acquired, because this is the one and the only method of acquiring it. Even the lowest shoemaker, if he pays more concentration, will polish shoes better, the cook with his concentration will focus all his attention on the work at hand and will cook a better meal. In making money or in worshipping God, or in doing anything, the stronger the power of concentration, the better will be that work is done.

Even though concentration is the key to acquiring knowledge—Concentration itself is not easy to attain. It is a skill that can be developed only through a lot of patience and practice. He who masters it is real 'yogi'. To control our senses and to gather all our awareness into one focus is by no means an easy task. Life itself is complex and there are invariably several issues vying for our attention which makes it even more difficult to focus on only one thing. Even if we try to concentrate fully on the work in hand, our subconscious mind is scattered in varied directions and soon drags our conscious mind along, without even our realizing it. It, therefore, requires a lot of discipline, will power and self-control to focus or concentrate.

However, the effort is worth it and pays rich dividends in the form of accomplishment of our goals. This is the one call, the one knock which opens the gate of nature, and lets out floods of light.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN questions given below.

10 x 1 =10

- i. What is the pre-requisite for acquiring knowledge?
a. Focus b. Concentration c. Confidence d. Energy
- ii. What comes easily to a concentrated mind than to less focused individuals?
a. Opportunities for success b. Problems
c. State of Awareness d. Luck
- iii. How does a concentrated mind succeed?
a. Solves problems quickly
b. Problems vanish before its focused energies
c. Both of the above d. None of the above
- iv. What examples of professionals, who use their powers of concentration are cited in the passage?
a. Chemist b. Astronomer c. Cook d. Only (a) and (b)
- v. The only method of acquiring knowledge according to the passage is
a. Start studying with focus b. Take help from professor and books
c. Use the power of concentration
d. There is not only one method of acquiring knowledge
- vi. How can concentration be developed?
a. By losing control of our senses b. By focusing on many things at a time
c. By thinking in varied directions d. By patience and practice
- vii. What are the key factors to develop focus or concentration?
a. Discipline b. Willpower c. Self-Control d. All of the above
- viii. How does being concentrated help us in our lives?
a. We accomplish our goals b. We fall down the ladder of success
c. We become a yoga guru d. We get a lot of money
- ix. Yoga is a practice that combines meditation, deep breathing, and stretching exercises. What is a person who performs yoga called?
- x. 'Acquire' is a verb. Give the noun form of this verb
- xi. Why is concentration so difficult to attain?
- xii. Find out a word from par 4 which means same as *competing*.

II. Read the following passage carefully.

1. A youngster quit Face book in December after spending over three years on the social networking site. With that one act, he bid a silent adieu to more than 300 contacts that he had added to his account during the period. Like almost everyone from his friends' circle, the 20-year-old was a regular on the service; visiting it every day to post photos and status updates. But last week, a new feature on Face book called Timeline forced him to reconsider the pros and cons of being on the networking site.
2. Everyone has some skeletons in their closet and I am just not comfortable with Face book digging up and displaying all the facets of my life on a bulletin board,' says this youngster who joined the network in July 2007 while he was in Class 11.

3. Face book, you see, had compressed the time he spent on the site and arranged it in chronological order. And while he initially liked the new, neatly organised scrapbook-like feature, he wasn't happy to reveal posts from the past, those that, until recently, were hidden under layers and layers of recent updates. Just clicking on a date on the timeline could transport his friends back in time and enable them to view every embarrassing comment, link or photo he had posted on his profile.
4. I think it's a recipe for disaster, he says. In 2007, I had some wall posts, which seemed appropriate at the time, but now after a lapse of four years, I have moved on and don't want them to be openly displayed for all to see.
5. And he is not alone. Many users, worried about how Face book activity could possibly affect their offlinelives, are choosing to commit 'Face book suicide'. While some have privacy concerns, others feel that the site that was meant to bring them closer to their friends actually does the opposite – it reduces their friendship to something superficial.



6. Poking and liking are not enough to keep a friendship going, says a business analyst. Having quit Face book three years ago, she prefers meeting her 'real' friends face-to-face, instead of reading their trite posts online.
7. On Face book, people hype everyday issues including what they ate and where they went on a daily basis, says this analyst who continues to use Twitter.
8. Similarly, an engineering student, quit Face book last December four years after joining it. One fine day, he exported all the data from his account into a little zip file and hit the delete button.
9. I realised that when it came to my friends who really mattered, I could actually keep in touch with them over the phone or by meeting them in real life, he wrote on his blog.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer any TEN questions

10 × 1 = 10

- i. The feature of Face book where one can see the posts, the embarrassing comments and thoughts, photos and links that a person has put on his profile in the past is:
 - a) create story
 - b) face book live
 - c) timeline
 - d) messenger

- ii. According to the passage, the social media:
 - a) can cause more harm than good.
 - b) Is just a waste of time.
 - c) connects one to real life.
 - d) provides opportunity to meet people face to face.
- iii. The feature 'Timeline' on Face book according to passage, forces the youngster to reconsider:
 - a) meeting friends face to face.
 - b) increasing use of social media.
 - c) saving time on social media.
 - d) the advantages and disadvantages of being on Face book
- iv. Many people are getting out of Face book as they feel:
 - a) addicted to it.
 - b) that their face book activity could affect their real life
 - c) they should join Instagram, Whatsapp or Twitter.
 - d) poking and liking is not enough
- v. The meaning of the word 'share' in Para 3 is:
 - a) liked
 - b) timeline
 - c) hidden
 - d) reveal
- vi. Which of the following is OPPOSITE in meaning to the word 'retained' as used in the passage?
 - a) exported
 - b) delete
 - c) account
 - d) quit
- vii. Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE in the context of the passage?
 - a) People love being poked and liked on Face book.
 - b) People visit social media everyday to post photos and for status updates.
 - c) No one prefers meeting 'real' friends face-to-face, instead of reading their trite posts online.
 - d) Few think that social media reduces their friendship to something superficial.
- viii. The phrase 'Face book suicide' refers to get someone:
 - a) Poking and liking
 - b) quitting face book as it could affect their real life.
 - c) clicking on a date on the timeline
 - d) using Twitter
- ix. Which of the following statements is TRUE in the context of the passage?
 - a) Time spent on social media is better than meeting face to face.
 - b) Social media use could increase the time teens spend together in person.
 - c) Stalking, personal attacks, and misuse of information are some of the threats faced by the users of social media.
 - d) Face book activity does not affect real life.
- x. Select the option that makes the correct use of 'trite', as used in the passage, to fill in the blank space.
 - a) At that moment, his words sounded to me.

- b) It was either a or an excellent copy.
 - c) Her powers give life and colour to her paintings.
 - d) A little air might clear some of the cobwebs.
- xi. According to business analyst what is required to keep friendship going?

III.

SECTION - B- GRAMMAR

Attempt any ten of the following questions.

10

- i) **Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct option to complete the sentences.**

He a lot of money on buying smart English clothes.

1

- a) has wasted b) wasted c) was wasting d) wastes

- ii) Read the conversation between the mother and Kiran. Complete the sentence by reporting the Kiran's reply correctly. **1**

Mother : Why are you late from school, Kiran?

Kiran : While coming from school to bus stop, slipped by stepping on a banana peel.

Mother asked Kiran why he was late from school. Kiran replied that

- iii) Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from a precaution board. **1**

There has been a landslide. You be careful while driving there.

- a) could b) can c) would d) must

- iv) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a magazine.

The evil of begging is very common into our society.

Option	error	correction
A	of	on
B	is	was
C	into	in
D	our	us

- v) Complete the given sentences by filling in the blank with the correct option. **1**

By the end of this September, she in this organisation for thirteen years.

- a) will work b) had been working
c) will be working d) will have been working

- vi) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket for the given portion of a letter. **1**

Subject: Placing an order

Dear sir,

I have reliably learnt that the books I (requirement) are currently available in your bookshop. I would like to place the following order for the school library.

- vii) Report the dialogue between Anil and Amal, by completing the sentence.

Anil : Why don't you get up? We can go for a walk.

Amal : If you like, you can go.

In response to the question, Amal told

- viii) Identify the error in the given sentence, from a school text and supply the correction. 1

According to tradition Gautama Budhha sit in Meditation in the Bodhi tree at Bodh Gaya.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	correction

- ix) Ajay shared some information, with Arun, about a holiday Tour. Report Arun's Question.

Did you enjoy the holiday tour?

- x) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the Girl Education Slogan. 1

Educate a girl child, she be the best leader in the country.

- a) Will b) May c) CAN d) NEED

- xi) Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Jamil and Emil. 1

Jamil : Emil ! Our friends are waiting for us outside, at least lower your voice.

Emil : Let them be there, when you don't care for the people why should I.

Jamil reminded Emil that their friends were waiting for them outside. He also requested her to lower. Emil

- a) replied loudly that she did not care for them
b) replies loudly that she does not care for them
c) replied loudly that she does not care for them
d) shouted loudly that she did not care for them

- xii) Identify the error. 1

Neil Armstrong was the commander for Apollo II.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

IV. SECTION - B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

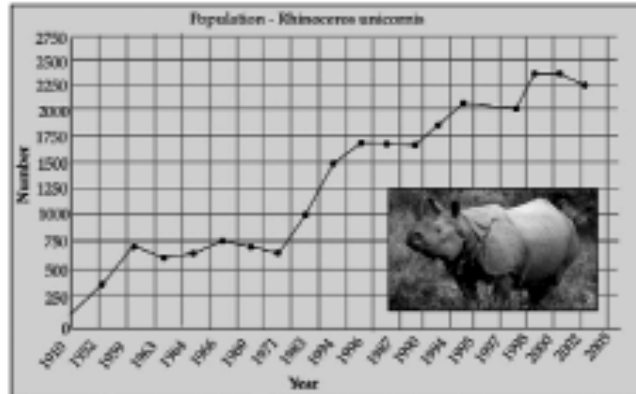
1. a) The recent increase in crimes against people of the North-East, especially in the cities, has highlighted the growing problem faced by the community. Fear of violence continues to worry them. Write a letter to the Editor of Times of India expressing your concern over the recent death of a young student resulting from a racial comment against people from North-East. Suggest what steps the government should take to solve this problem. You are Aanchal/Aryan, a resident of A-12, East of Kailash, N. Delhi. (100 - 120 words) 5

OR

- b) You are Divyansh/Divyanshi of C-25 Subhash Nagar, New Delhi. Recently, you purchased a colour TV which is not working properly. Write a letter of complaint to Messrs Frontier Electronics

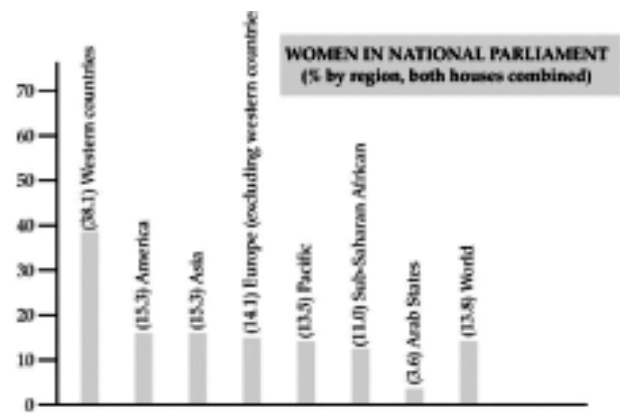
Corporation, Karol Bagh, New Delhi asking for its immediate replacement. Invent the necessary details. (100 - 120 words)

2. a) A survey was conducted on the population of Rhinoceros unicorn in between 1910 to 2005. Write a paragraph in about 100 - 120 words, based on the line graph given below. **5**



OR

- b) The graph below proves that even in the 21st century the status of women is not equal to that of men when it comes to occupying high positions in various occupations. Read the graph carefully and write a paragraph in 100 - 120 words to analyse the given graph.



V. SECTION C-LITERATURE

- i. **Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow. Attempt any one . 5**

A. For the first twenty-four hours Mijbil was neither hostile nor friendly; he was simply aloof and indifferent, choosing to sleep on the floor as far from my bed as possible. The second night Mijbil came on to my bed in the small hours and remained asleep in the crook of my knees until the servant brought tea in the morning, and during the day he began to lose his apathy and take a keen, much too keen, interest in his surroundings. I made a body-belt for him and took him on a lead to the bathroom, where for half an hour he went wild with joy in the water, plunging and rolling in it, shooting up and down the length of the bathtub underwater, and making enough slosh and splash for a hippo.

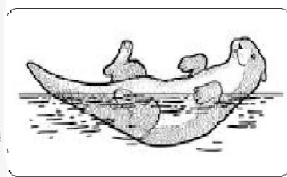
- i) "Mijbil was neither hostile nor friendly; he was simply aloof and indifferent..." From the actions of the given set of friends, choose the person who's behaviour is likely to resemble Mijbil's.

e) Akanksha rudely tells her best friend to stop calling.

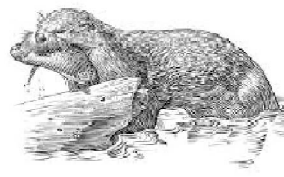
- f) Piyush was amicable since the day he walked into his new classroom.
 g) Rishabh became nasty as soon as he started earning money.
 h) Urvashi was distant for a while after losing her grandmother.
- ii) Select the option that correctly puts the following events in correct order.
1. Maxwell planned to take Mijbil to the bathroom.
 2. Mijbil slept at a significant distance from Maxwell's bed.
 3. Mijbil immensely enjoyed playing in water.
 4. Mijbil slept in much closer vicinity of the author as opposed to the previous night.
- a) 1, 3, 4, 2 b) 3, 1, 2, 4 c) 2, 4, 1, 3 d) 4, 3, 1, 2
- iii) The words "slosh and splash" are examples of the onomatopoeic words that go together phonetically-resembling the sound that they describe. Choose the option that DOES NOT fit the given description.
- a) hip hop b) bow wow c) tick tock d) pitter patter
- iv) Choose the option that correctly describes a body-belt in the given context as explained by the four people given below.
- a) A body-belt is a device especially made for swimmers and scuba divers, which helps them breathe under water.
 - b) Body-belts basically resemble the waist belts and keep our body upright, in a standing position.
 - c) Body-belts are used for restraining while doing certain activities, in order to prevent hurt.
 - d) A body-belt is an accessory used by body builders for weight training as a measure against muscle and bone injuries.
- v) Select the option that best describes the final action of the otter, based on the given passage.



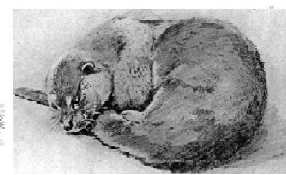
(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)

- a) Option (1) b) Option (2) c) Option (3) d) Option (4)

OR

B. Read the extract given below and choose the appropriate option from the questions below:

Tell me another!" scoffed Pranjol.

"We have an Indian legend too. Bodhidharma, an ancient Buddhist ascetic, cut off his eyelids because he felt sleepy during meditations. Ten tea plants grew out of the eyelids. The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drunk, banished sleep."

“Tea was first drunk in China,” Rajvir added, “as far back as 2700 B.C.! In fact, words such as tea, chai and chini are from the Chinese. Tea came to Europe only in the sixteenth century and was drunk more as medicine than as beverage.

- i. The main idea of this extract is
 - a. Tea as a popular beverage in Europe and how it spread.
 - b. Origin of tea in India and why it became popular in Europe.
 - c. Importance of India in popularising tea and influencing Europe.
 - d. Indian legend on tea and how it travelled from China to Europe.
- ii. Why do you think Pranjal ‘scoffed’?
 - a. He was upset with the legend Rajvir shared.
 - b. He was mocking Rajvir for his lack of knowledge.
 - c. He was amused and tickled at what Rajvir shared.
 - d. He was impressed with what Rajvir had shared.
- iii. Pick the option that includes the tea label information that corresponds to the given sentence.

“The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drunk, banished sleep.”

- 1) Its calming effects may be attributed to an antioxidant called apigenin, which is found in abundance in chamomile tea. Apigenin binds to specific receptors in your brain that may decrease anxiety and initiate sleep.
 - 2) It increases levels of a neurotransmitter called gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) and improves overall sleep quality by shortening the time it takes to fall asleep and decreasing nighttime awakenings.
 - 3) It interferes with REM sleep, has some unwanted side effects, keeps sleep away and allows the possibility of inducing hours of sleeplessness and increased night-time awakenings.
 - 4) It alleviates anxious thoughts and soothes the spirit before bedtime. It improves energy levels and helps banish stress and results in a better night’s sleep, naturally.
- a. Option 1 b. Option 2 c. Option 3 d. Option 4
- iv. Based on the inference from the extract, which of these is NOT TRUE about tea drinking in the sixteenth century Europe?

Dr. Smith is a doctor of sixteenth-century Europe.

 - a. Dr. Smith encouraged drinking of green tea whenever available, to reduce chances of tooth loss.
 - b. Dr. Smith prescribed regular tea drinking to all his patients with a weak heart.
 - c. Dr. Smith always served tea as a refreshment when he has guests, as they all enjoyed this beverage.
 - d. Dr. Smith usually recommended black tea to reduce inflammation in the body.
 - v. Based on this extract, how do you think Rajvir felt while narrating?

*The night is fresh, the whole moon shines
in a sky still open...*

- i. The poet talks about the house as
 - a. a safe sanctuary from predators
 - b. a place of confinement
 - c. a representation of family
 - d. a concrete alternative to a natural one
- ii. The poet uses the indefinite article for 'sky' instead of the definite one. This is so because the poet is referring to
 - a. The portion of the sky bathed in moonlight versus the part that is still dark
 - b. the ceiling of the verandah as 'a sky' versus the door kept open, being 'the sky'
 - c. some part of the sky still left open for women to explore, away from limitations set by patriarchal norms
 - d. the opportunities symbolized by an open sky outside can be utilized by a single woman
- iii. The extract uses **open** twice, suggesting different meanings. Pick the option that lists the correct meanings, respectively.
 - a. allowing access and vision-expanse of space
 - b. sharing a common space-great view
 - c. advantage-obstacles ahead
 - d. entry point-vastness
- iv. Choose the option that DOES NOT state the meaning of the underlined word. I scarcely mention...
 - a. barely
 - b. tactfully
 - c. hardly
 - d. only just
- v. Choose the option that correctly depicts the imagery in the last two lines of the extract.



(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)

- a. Option (ii)
- b. Option (i)
- c. Option (iii)
- d. Option (iv)

VI. Answer any four of the following questions in 40-50 words each:

4 x 3 = 12

- i) How do you know that Lencho was a hard-working farmer? Give some extracts from the lesson.
- ii) Why did the young seagull utter a joyful scream on seeing his mother?
- iii) If he roars at you as you're dyin'/You'll know it is the Asian Lion..." Comment on the irony of the quote from the poem. "How to Tell Wild Animals".
- iv) Do you agree with Anne when she says that teachers are the most unpredictable creatures on earth. Justify

v) Mijbil caused a sensation in London. Expound with reference to the chapter "Mijbil the Otter".

VII. Answer any two of the following questions in 40-50 words each: 2 x 3 = 6

- i) What do you think would have happened if Griffin was caught by Jaffers and the latter hadn't become unconscious?
- ii) What are the qualities that are required into the making of a scientist?
- iii) Max was unprepared for his mission. Discuss with reference to the chapter 'The Midnight Visitor'

VIII. Answer any one of the following questions in 100-120 words each: 1 x 6 =6

- i) Anne justified her being a chatterbox in her essay. Do you agree that she had the courage to fight injustice? What do you learn from Anne's character through this?
- ii) Lencho had faith in God but lacked faith in humanity. Elaborate with reference to 'A Letter to God'.

IX. Answer any one of the following questions in 100-120 words each: 1 x 6 =6

- i) Richard Ebright displayed a well-rounded personality. Do you agree? Elucidate in the context of the given text.
- ii) Education, love and sympathy can transform even a thief. How is it true in the case of Hari Singh?