

D. SPECIMEN PAPER 2

(Instructions to students as in the First Specimen Paper)

Question 1

Write a composition (in approximately 400–450 words) on any one of the following subjects. (You are reminded that you will be rewarded for orderly and coherent presentation of material, use of appropriate style and general accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar.) [25]

- Describe some of the ways in which the place where you live has changed during the last decade. In your composition, describe whether the changes are for the better or the worse, and why do you think so.
- There was a transporters strike and your school was closed. As a result there was an unscheduled break in the middle of a hectic working week. Narrate how you spent the day.
- 'Public transport should be free to all'. Argue for or against the given statement.
- Compassion.
- 'Corruption is a contagious disease which affects all those who come in its contact'. Give your views on the given statement.
- Write a short story of your own which ends with the sentence – "At last he achieved what he had always wished for."

Question 2

- You recently watched a film with your family. The Principal of your school wants to arrange the screening of a film for the students of Class XI and XII. She has asked you to write a review of the film, giving the necessary inputs, telling her why the film is a must-watch for all the students. Base your report on the hints given below:  
Name of the film – director and producer of the film – theme and plot of the film – leading actors – performance of the actors – music and choreography – message of the film – reasons why the film should be a must-watch for the students.  
(You may also include other relevant details.)

[20]

- As a member of the Students Council of your school, you have been asked by the Principal of your school to submit a proposal in about 150 words, on establishing an Olympiad Club to help students, who wish to appear in the International Maths and Science Olympiad.

[10]

Question 3

Answer sections (a), (b) and (c).

- In each of the following items, sentence A is complete, while sentence B is not. Complete sentence B, making it as similar as possible to sentence A. Write sentence B in each case. [10]

Example: (0) A. You can go out provided you promise to come back home in time.

B. You can't go

Answer: (0) B. You can't go out unless you promise to come back home in time.

1. A. If she had asked for the discount, she could have got it.

B. Had

2. A. Sumit has probably misplaced his wallet.

B. In all probability,

3. A. Tell me why you have opened that box.

B. Tell me the purpose

4. A. Only a novice would make such a painting.

B. None

5. A. As you sow, so you will reap.

B. You will

6. A. The doctor said to the patient, "I will not come to see you today."

B. The doctor told the patient

7. A. Though Arjun was suffering from fever, he played for the school.

B. In spite of

8. A. Books are our best friends.

B. Are

9. A. I have found the ring that I had lost.

B. I had lost

10. A. The mechanic was examining the old car.

B. The old car

(b) Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (Do not write the sentence.)

her for months.

1. He has not heard anything ..... him was from a common friend.

2. The last I heard

3. The teacher tried to impress ..... us the need for discipline.

4. I was impressed ..... his speech.

5. Please call ..... a doctor.

6. He called ..... for help.

7. The municipality has pulled ..... the old town hall.

8. The patient has pulled ..... her illness.

9. My sister will look ..... my son during my absence.

10. After his graduation, he is looking ..... a job.

Answers:

1. .... 2. .... 3. .... 4. ....

5. .... 6. .... 7. .... 8. ....

9. .... 10. ....

(c) Fill in the blanks in the passage given below with the appropriate form of the verb given in brackets. Do not write the passage, but write the verbs in the correct order. [5]

Food is also ..... (1) (call) a universal medicine. If we ..... (2) (split) the word 'disease' it will read as 'dis-ease'—where there is no ease that is dis-ease. Every disease

..... (3) (require) an appropriate cure. A fever cannot be ..... (4) (cure) by ..... (5) (take) a tablet meant to alleviate headaches.

Food must be ..... (6) (consume) only from the perspective of ..... (7) (provide) the body with the required nutrients, not from the standpoint of personal taste and preference. As the mind is not under our control, we tend ..... (8) (fall) into the trap of likes and dislikes with regard to the food we consume. The amount consumed must be ..... (9) (monitor) carefully.

Moderation is the keyword. Anything in excess is poisonous. Everything that is ..... (10) (take) in through all the senses, including food, should be in limited quantities.

Answers:

1. .... 2. .... 3. ....

4. .... 5. .... 6. ....

7. .... 8. .... 9. ....

10. ....

Question 4

Read the passage given below and answer the questions (a), (b) and (c) that follow:

(1) One evening after **dark** a young man prowled among the crumbling red mansions, ringing their bells. At the twelfth mansion the bell sounded faint and far away in some **remote** hollow depths.

(2) Then came the housekeeper, who made him think of an unwholesome, surfeited worm that had eaten its **nut** to a hollow shell and now sought to fill the vacancy with edible lodgers. He asked if there was a room to let. "Come in," said the housekeeper. Her voice came from her throat; her throat seemed lined with fur.

(3) The young man followed her up the stairs.

(4) "This is the room," said the housekeeper. "It's a nice room. It ain't often vacant. I had some most elegant people in it **last** summer—no trouble at all, and paid in advance to the minute.

(5) "Do you have many theatrical people rooming here?" asked the young man. "They come and go. A good proportion of my lodgers is connected with the theaters. I get my share."

(6) He was tired, he said, and would take possession at once. As the housekeeper moved away he asked her, "A young girl, Miss Eloise Vashner—do you remember such a one among your lodgers? She would be singing on the stage, most likely.

A fair girl of medium height and slender, with reddish gold hair and a dark mole near her left eyebrow."

- (7) "No, I don't remember the name. These stage people have names they change as often as their rooms."
- (8) He who had loved her best had tried to find her. He was sure that since her disappearance from home this great water-girt city held her somewhere. He reclined, inert, upon a chair.
- (9) Then suddenly, as he rested there, the room was filled with the strong, sweet odour of mignonette. It came as upon him with such fragrance and emphasis that it almost seemed a living visitor. And the man cried aloud, "What, dear?" as if he had been called, and sprang up and faced about. The rich odour clung to him and wrapped him around.
- (10) "She has been in this room," he cried, and he sprang to wrest from it a token, for he could recognise the smallest thing that had belonged to her.
- (11) He traversed the room like a hound on the scent, skimming everything in the room. And then he went to the housekeeper.
- (12) "Will you tell me, madam," he besought her, "who occupied the room I have before I came?"
- (13) "Yes, sir, I can tell you." She gave a long list of tenants, who had rented that room before him. He thanked her and crept back to his room. The perfume of mignonette had departed. When all was smug, he turned out the light, turned the gas full on and laid himself upon the bed.
- (14) Mrs. McCool sat with Mrs. Purdy in the room where housekeepers forgather.
- (15) "I rented out my third-floor-back this evening to a young man," said Mrs. Purdy to Mrs. McCool.
- (16) "And did you tell him, then?" Mrs. McCool asked.
- (17) "No, I did not tell him," replied Mrs. Purdy. "There are people who reject the renting of a room if they are told a suicide has happened there."
- (18) "Yes, madam; that is true. 'Tis just one week ago I helped you lay out the third-floor-back. A pretty slip of a young girl with a dark mole near her left eyebrow, who killed herself with the gas, a sweet little face she had, young girl," said Mrs. McCool.
- (a) (i) Given below are four words and phrases. Find the words which have a similar meaning in the passage:
1. moved quietly and carefully

2. large houses
3. too large
4. unhealthy

(ii) For each of the words given below, write a sentence of at least ten words using the same word **unchanged in form**, but with a **different meaning** from that which it carries in the passage: [4]

1. dark (line 1)
2. remote (line 3)
3. nut (line 5)
4. last (line 10)

(b) Answer the following questions in your own words as briefly as possible:

(i) Why was the young man prowling through the crumbling red mansions? [2]

(ii) What did the young man think about the appearance of the housekeeper? [2]

