

ASSIGNMENT FOR THE SESSION 2014-2015

Class: X

Subject : English

Assignment

Section A (Reading)

1. Read the following passage:-

In March, 1861, I commenced an expedition to discover the sources of the Nile, with the hope of meeting the East African expedition of Captains Speke and Grant, that had been sent by the English Government from the South via Zanzibar, for the same object. I had not the presumption to publish my intention, as the sources of the Nile had hitherto defied all explorers, but I had inwardly determined to accomplish this difficult task or to die in the attempt. From my youth I had been inured to hardships and endurance in wild sports in tropical climates, and when I gazed upon the map of Africa I had a wild hope, mingled with humility, that, even as the insignificant worm bores through the hardest oak, I might by perseverance reach the heart of Africa.

I could not conceive that anything in this world has power to resist a determined will, so long as health and life remain. The failure of every former attempt to reach the Nile source did not astonish me, as the expeditions had consisted of parties, which, when difficulties occur, generally end in difference of opinion and in retreat; I therefore determined to proceed alone, trusting in the guidance of a Divine Providence and the good fortune that sometimes attends a tenacity of purpose. I weighed carefully the chances of the undertaking. Before me, untrodden Africa; against me, the obstacles that had defeated the world since its creation; on my side, a somewhat tough constitution, perfect independence, a long experience in savage life, and both time and means, which I intended to devote to the object without limit.

- A1.1 Answer the following question:-

- a) What wild hope did the author have while he looked at the map of Africa? Why?
- b) Why did the author consider while starting his expedition to Africa?

- A1.2 Find the synonym of the following:-

- a) started
- b) ability to bear and tolerate
- c) to plan
- d) to step back

Section B (Writing)

- 2. You are Pooja/Puneet. Draft a debate on the motion 'Will the influx of money after constitution of IPL in India corrupt the dignity of cricket?' Write your answer in 150-200 words.
- 3. You watched the film 'Taare Zameen Pe' which highlighted the need to understand the problems faced by children suffering from dyslexia. Write an article in 200 words appealing parents and teachers not to ignore and suppress the requirements of 'special' children and love and care which they need to overcome their shortcomings.
- 4. Eco Club of your school organized World Environment Day in which a number of activities were held by its members and students of other schools were also invited to participate in various competitions. As secretary of the club, write a report in 120 words for your school magazine.
- 5. Complete the story:-
I opened the door of my room and was surprised to see

Section C (Grammar)

6. Complete the following paragraph after reading the given conversation:-

Ravi: Can I have a small sauce bottle, please?

Shopkeeper: Sorry, I've only big ones.

Ravi: When will it be available?

Shopkeeper: I can give it to you tomorrow.

Ravi: Thank you, then I will get it tomorrow.

Ravi asked the shopkeeper(i) _____. The shopkeeper (ii) _____
tomato sauce. Ravi wanted to know (iii) _____. The shopkeeper (iv)
_____. Ravi thanked him and (v) _____.

Section D (Literature)

7. Explain the importance of time in the poem "Not marble nor the gilded monuments".
8. Why does the mirror say "I am not cruel, only truthful"?
9. How does Ali understand the pain of love and separation?
10. Explain the central idea of the play "Dear Departed."

-----X-----