

CLASS XI ENGLISH ASSIGNMENT – III SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER, 08
SECTION – A READING

A1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:-

This year, India will cross the one-billion mark in terms of population. In doing, so, it would become the second nation in the world boasting of a billion-plus population.

Apart from being a drain on the nation's limited resources, it spells ecological disaster. It is gradually drawing on our leaders and planners that sustaining this massive population is going to be independent India's biggest challenges.

A look at the figures reveals the true picture.

From 238 million in 1901, India's population increased to 846 million in the 1991 census. The figure is expected to cross the one billion mark in a few months from now.

During the first 50 years from 1901 the population added was 122.7 million. The net addition during the second half of the century is expected to be around 634 million.

By 2051, the size of Indian population would reach staggering proportions: 1,646 billion almost double the 1991 population of 846 million.

Another area of concern is growing urbanization. Experts say India is going to witness a "marked movement" of people from rural areas and conclaves to urban fringes in the years to come.

Estimates suggest that just after 2000, the number of urban dwellers will outnumber the rural population.

According to Ashish Bose, honorary professor at the Delhi-based Institute of Economic Growth, "Our current urban population exceeds the total population the US." Says Bose, "The number of cities/towns with million-plus population is expected to go up to 40 by 2001."

Population growth accelerated till 1970s and depicted slight declaration during the eighties. The process of urbanization also depicted a similar pattern. But the process of concentration of population in metros and megapolises has accelerated continuously.

"The process is expected to continue as is being witnessed in other developed as well as developing countries," says S.C. Gulati of the Indian Association for the Study of Population.

According to projections by the Planning Commission's expert group, India's urban population is expected to rise to 326 million in 2005, from the current 286 million. It is expected to further increase to 419 million in about 15 years from now.

This process is bound to take its toll on the environment sooner rather than later. "Water pollution in India has largely been attributed to disposal of solid and water wastes of metros and megapolises, and untreated industrial toxic effluents into larger rivers of India," says Gulati.

The deterioration in the quality of air in metros and other megapolises is the direct result of increasing vehicular traffic, "agglomeration of industrial units and thermal power plants and usage of fossil fuels," he says.

But pollution is just one aspect of this problem. Another area that demands immediate attention is that of feeding our teeming millions.

Feeding an ever-burgeoning population is by no means an easy task. For instance, the food grains requirement which is estimated to be 180 million tones (mt) for 2000, is expected to go up to 284 mt. By 2020; implying an annual increase of 1.8 percent.

Whether we would achieve that figure is doubtful, especially in view of the limited availability of land, say experts.

"The increase would depend upon land productivity increase potentials, which would depend further on technical innovations (and) proper management of the agricultural resources," says Gulati.

Increased pressure on agricultural land has begun taking its toll. Experts say that the famed Green Revolution may not be so "green" after all.

"High input technologies have created problems of continuous monoculture cropping, depletion of water table, deterioration of soil due to salinity and water-logging and environmental pollution and ecological imbalance due to intensive use of fertilizers and pesticides," say population experts KV Raman and S. Rajagopalan, population experts in a research paper.

The paper says that "green revolution technologies largely depend on non-renewable form of energy, and it will be self-defeating in the long run because of the finite nature of such energy sources."

"Even in the agriculturally prosperous state of Punjab, there is a deepening crisis..... Because of new pests as well as the increasing use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides leading to serious environmental problems," says Bose.

The only solution lies in immediately arresting the increasing population as well as the “flee to the city” syndrome.

The population policy, announced recently, aims at population stabilization by 2-45. But it is as usual, case of too little too late, say experts. --Arindam Dasgupta TOI

(a) **Answer the following questions in your own words as far as possible. Use one or two sentences only for each answer :-**

- | | |
|---|---|
| (i) What is likely to be the achievement of India in the year 2000? | 1 |
| (ii) What are the two likely drawbacks? | 2 |
| (iii) What estimates have been made about urban population during the 21 st century? | 2 |
| (iv) What will be effect of increasing population on pollution? | 2 |
| (v) How will food problem become “the problem”? | 2 |

(b) **Find words from the above passage which convey similar meaning as the following:-**

- (i) Anything that continuously uses up somebody’s strength, time, money etc.
- (ii) A city having million plus population
- (iii) Actions characteristics of a particular condition.

A1.2 Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :-

Scientists studying how women’s minds work while shopping have discovered “buy, buy buy” brainwaves that age generated when find an item they like. The same team has also isolated the signals that correspond to rejection and “I’ll come back later”.

The research is the first to show the unconscious working of consumers’ minds. It was sponsored by some of the largest corporations which hope it will enable them to create products, shops and advertisements and subconsciously stimulate similar brainwave patterns and so encourage people to buy without realizing it.

Critics have condemned the research as sinister and accused the corporations sponsoring it – including Coca-Cola, General Motors and Procter & Gamble – of seeking to brainwash shoppers.

The researchers say their work will help manufacturers and consumers. “We are lighting up the shadows of the mind and showing what happens when consumers make decisions,” said Gerald Zaltman, a professor at Harvard Business School where the work is being carried out.

Zaltman’s research is based on the idea that consumers choose which products and brands to buy almost entirely subconsciously. By contrast, the questionnaires upon which most market research is based probe only the conscious mind. This, he says, explain their lamentable inaccuracy.

“When it comes to shopping, what people say and think is very different from what they actually do. There are unconscious processes at work,” he said.

Working with Stephen Kosslyn, Harvard’s professor of psychology, Zaltman used positron emission tomography to measure the changes in blood flow and electrical activity in different parts of the brains of women exposed to mock-ups of a variety of retail environment.

Once, a car dealership with pushy sales staff and dirty showroom provoked a rapid surge of blood to the right prefrontal cortex – an area already linked to the “flight or fight” reaction. Similar flows went to the insula and the hippocampus which are also linked with negative reactions.

By contrast, a salesroom that offered helpful staff and perks such as valet parking produced blood flows to the left prefrontal cortex and to the visual cortex where activity is linked to heightened pleasure. The researchers tested the women’s responses to a wide variety of shop types to build up a detailed picture of their reactions and to pinpoint those occurring when a customer was likely to buy – or to walk out.

The Harvard team has already used its unpublished results to advise an American car maker, believed to be General Motors, on the best design for its showrooms. Those which have undergone such redesigns are reported to have seen sales soar by more than 30 percent.

The weekend the research was greeted with interest by top British retailers. Among them was Jimmy Choo, one of Britain’s most sought – after shoe designers, who said the appearance of a shop could make or break a business.

“We based the design of our Knightsbridge shop on the principles of feng shui. We know it makes people feel good but we don’t know why,” he said.

Theo Fennel, who creates handmade, jewellery and silverware for customers including Naomi Campbell and Elton John from his west London shop, was more skeptical. “Knowing that your customers were likely to buy would spoil the fun of retailing,” he said.

British academics are impressed, however. Robert East, professor of consumer behaviour at Kingston University, Surrey said: “It could save manufacturers spending money marketing something that would have no appeal.” The prospect of goods and shops becoming even more difficult to resist has horrified some consumers.

The Harvard team is undeterred, however, and has already started work on a new project : to find out how people respond to advertisements and to use the knowledge to create powerful new marketing techniques, including the “everlasting jingle” which consumers will find even more difficult than usual to get out of their heads. - Jonathan Leake (The Sunday Times)

- (a) Answer the following questions in your own words as far as possible. Use one or two sentences only for each answer:-
- (i) What have the scientists discovered? 2
 - (ii) How will the research help the manufacturers? 2
 - (iii) On what grounds has this approach been criticized? 1
 - (iv) How do the buy zones react? 1
 - (v) What is the functioning of the reject zones? 1
 - (vi) What is the reaction of academicians and manufacturers to this scientific study ? 2
- (b) Find words in the above passage which convey a similar meaning as the following :-
- (i) produced 1
 - (ii) make something more active or alert 1
 - (iii) unwilling to believe ; doubting the claims. 1

A2.1 Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :-

It has been said that everyone lives by selling something. In the light of this statement, teachers live by selling knowledge, philosophers by selling wisdom and priests by selling spiritual comfort. Though it may be possible to measure the value of material goods in terms of money, it is extremely difficult to estimate the true value of the services which people perform for us. There are times when we would willingly give everything we possess to save our lives, yet we might grudge paying a surgeon a high fee for offering us precisely this service. The conditions of society are such that skills have to be paid for in the same way that goods are paid for at a shop. Everyone has something to sell.

Tramps seem to be the only exception to this general rule. Beggars almost sell themselves as human beings to arouse the pity of passers-by. But real tramps are not beggars. They have nothing to sell and require nothing from others. In seeking independence, they do not sacrifice their human dignity. A tramp may ask you for money, but he will never ask you to feel sorry for him. He has deliberately chosen to lead the life he leads and is fully aware of the consequences. He may never be sure where the next meal is coming from, but he is free from the thousands of anxieties which afflict other people. His few material possessions make it possible for him to move from place to place with ease. By having to sleep in the open, he gets for closer to the world of nature than most of us ever do. He may hunt, beg or steal occasionally to keep himself alive; he may even in times of real need, do a little work; but he will never sacrifice his freedom. We often speak with contempt for tramps and put them in the same class as beggars, but how many of us can honestly say that we have not felt a little envious of their simple way of life and their freedom from care ?

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary – minimum four). 1
- (b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80-100 words. 3

PASSAGE 11

A2.2 Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:-

Over the last fifty years, millions of rupees have undoubtedly been spent on child-care in this country. Yet, it is not Sub-Saharan Africa that is the home of the malnourished child but India where, according to UNICEF statistics, 53% of all children are malnourished. The reasons for malnutrition among Indian children are not far to seek. It is a multi-sectoral, multi-level problem that involves not just the availability but also adequate mother and childcare in terms of easy access to health facilities, safe drinking water, environmental sanitation and, of course, literacy.

Neither the setting up of the National Nutrition Council in 1994, under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, nor the integrated child development scheme launched in 1975 to promote the holistic development of the child under six years of age, have made any visible or vocal difference or improvement in the sordid situation. Unfortunately, the purpose of strengthening the capacities of the community and of those who care has failed to deliver the goods because the schemes envisaged have had only marginal impact in the area of nutrition where it is most wanting and woeful. On paper we have plenty of policies and programmes, but as far as performance is concerned we have earned enough notoriety. The need of the hour is the translate them into deeds and results what we have tried to sell in the form of promises and populist pronouncements.

The most urgent areas of attention and immediate actions are nutrition, ‘health and education’ of children, whose well-being reflects the health of the society and caring outlook of the polity. Since the causes of

malnutrition of children are many, like exploding population, bias against the female child, weak and suffering mothers, the remedy calls for “care of the mother and care by the mother”, besides an effective control over population explosion. Ignorance on what foods should be taken, is another contributory factor that results in malnutrition among women and children. The implementation of various schemes to fight the menace of malnutrition and undernourishment of children requires planning, co-ordination and monitoring by high-powered bodies right down to the village level.

- (a) **On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary – minimum four).** **1**
- (b) **Write a summary of the above passage in about 80-100 words.** **3**

SECTION – B WRITING SKILLS

NOTICE (50 WORDS – 4 MARKS)

Answer the following in about 50 words each

- As the Secretary of your Cultural and Activity Club draft a notice for the students secondary & Sr. Secondary deptt. About the inter house debate competition to be held. Give all the necessary information.
- As the President of your Resident welfare Association draft a notice for a blood donation camp to be held in the community centre of your locality. Urge the residents to come forward for this noble cause.
- Your school is organizing a trip to Mt. Abu As the Head Boy. Write a notice informing the students giving all the necessary details.
- Your Ramit of A.B.C. School, You've lost your wallet in the school. It contained your Library Card - I Card and other important papers. Draft a notice for the school notice board regarding the same.
- As the Editor of “Sagarika” ask for articles and other material through a notice to be put on school notice board.
- Draft a notice to inform the residents of your locality about maintenance work of your locality about maintenance work on the water tanks and pipelines. This would mean no water for 2 days. Give necessary information. You are the secretary of your R.W.A.
- You are Ramesh / Rakhi the Secretary L.M. Resident Welfare Colony Green Park, Kolkata. Write a notice requesting the members of your society to attend a meeting to discuss the problems of security.
- You are Abhinav / Abha. you have planned a week course in Yoga and meditation for Resident of Group Housing Society Lucknow. Prepare a notice for the society's notice board stating the objectives of the course and other necessary detail.

ADVERTISEMENTS (50 WORDS – 4 MARKS)

CLASSIFIEDS

- You are Manoj / Abha of 354, Pitampura, New Delhi. You want to sell the 1st Floor of your flat. Draft an advertisement for the same in classified columns under 'Property' section. Include relevant details of the flat.
- Amarnath wants to sell his 2nd hand car. Draft an Advt. for him in this regard.
- Your Grandfather had an accident and he's laid up in bed. You need a trained nurse for him. Draft an ad. in situation column.
- You have lost a briefcase containing important papers. Draft an ad. In the lost & found column.
- You are Amar Verma. You are running a coaching institute for the sr. Sec. Classes. Draft an ad. For your institute.
- You have recently started a Yoga Centre for school children. Draft an ad. About it.
- You are a computer engineer well versed in software and hardware technologies. Draft an 'Ad' in 'Situations wanted' column offering your services.
- You are Anurag / Aparna of 110 Swasthya Vihar, New Delhi. You wish to rent out a portion of your flat. Draft an Advt. for the 'To let' column of your daily.
- You are the Personal Asstt. To the G.R. A.B.L. Metal Tools. You need two engineers for your company. Draft an Ad. For the situation Vacancy column.

Display Ad (50 words - 5 marks)

- Draft a display Ad. for Fabric colours.
- Draft a display Advt. for a new toothpaste.

3. Draft a display Ad. for a new Jam.
4. Draft a display Ad. for a new washing powder.
5. Write a display advt. for a new soft drink.

GRAMMAR SECTION – C

C1. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate words

My Elder brother (i) _____ not speak Bengali. But he (ii) _____ do so when he was in Kolkata about 20 years back. If he tries once again he (iii) _____ speak even now. I speak it, of course not fluently. But I (iv) _____ interact with local people for my everyday need.

C2. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with appropriate form of the words given in brackets:-

Robin (i) _____ (want) to go to the US for his advance studies in telecommunication systems. He (ii) _____ (propose) to prepare for competitive exams for at least one year. He (iii) _____ (know) that a systematic preparation is necessary to ensure success. His sister from New York (iv) _____ (write) that he must (v) _____ (obtain) sample practice papers and (vi) _____ (join) some good coaching centre in India. He (vii) _____ (attend) the Bright Coaching Centre in Imphal. The centre (viii) _____ (assign) regularly a lot of home assignment for exhaustive practice.

C3. Complete the following sentences to make them meaningful.

- (i) Dr. Samuel is a nuclear scientist who _____ as a consultant for several years before his _____
- (ii) People who _____ to listen to their beloved leader were shivering in the snow and cold winds.

CHAPTER – 4

ALBERT EINSTEIN AT SCHOOL BY PATRICK PRINGLE

Q1. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each:-

- (a) Do you think Albert is being impolite while answering the history teacher's questions? Give reasons.
- (b) What characteristic of Einstein's nature is highlighted by the exchange between him and the teacher?

Q2. Answer the following questions in about 100-125 words each:-

- (a) The school system often curbs individual talents. Discuss with reference to the lesson.
- (b) Comment on the role of Yuri.

CHAPTER – 5

MOTHER'S DAY BY J.B. PRIESTLEY

Q1. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each:-

- (a) Describe the Person's living room.
- (b) Contrast the appearance of Mrs. Pearson and Mrs. Fitzgerald.

Q2. Answer the following questions in about 100-125 words:-

- (a) Which issues are raised by this play and how are they resolved? Answer with reference to Mother's Day.
- (b) Write a character sketch of George Pearson.

CLASS XI - SUBJECT – ENGLISH

ASSIGNMENT NO. IV NOVEMBER& DEC, 08

SECTION A READING

A1. THE LAKE ISLE OF INNISFREE – W.B. YEATS

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,
 And small cabin build there
 of clay and wattles made
 Nine Beam rows will I have there
 a hive for the honey bee
 And live along in the bee loud glade
 And I shall have some peace there,
 For peace comes dripping slow,
 Dropping from the veils of the morning
 to wear the cricket sings.

There midnight's all a glimmer and
 noon a purple glow
 And evening full of the linnet's wings
 I will arise and go now for
 always night and day
 I hear the lake water lapping with
 Low sounds by the shore :-
 While I stand on the roadway,
 Or on the pavements gray,
 I hear it in the deep heart's cone

A1.1 (a) Why does the poet wish to go to Innisfree ?

(b) What is the poet's attitude to nature?

(c) How does peace arrive at Innisfree?

Q1.2(a) Select the right answer

The poet describes the peace and beauty of Innisfree but indirectly

i. but brings out his materialistic attitude (ii) Comments on harsh city life

(b) Veils of the morning refer to

(i) the cover worn by the goddess of dawn (ii) layers of mist

SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS

BUSINESS LETTERS

B1. You are Akhil of 126 mall Road, Simla you wish to do a short term computer course. Write to the Director, Computer World Simla seeking information about the course and other information.

B2. Write to the Manager Bata Shoe Co., Faridabad complaining about quality of pair of shoes purchased by you from their dealer.

SECTION -C GRAMAR

C1. Rewrite the full statements as news items:-

(a) 16 teachers of C.D.R. nursery school were given incentives by the Education directorate for meritorious services.

(b) The flyover being constructed across the busy Ashram Chowk has been completed and is ready to be used.

(c) The newly elected Prime Minister of England has declared his cabinet.

C2. Complete the foll. Dialogues suitably.

a. _____ I borrow your dictionary for a day or two?

b. _____, provided you return it as promised.

A. When do you want it back?

B. In not more than 2 days.

A. No problem I _____ I _____ stick to the promised day.

DECEMBER

CHAPTER – 7 THE ADVENTURE BY JAYANT NARLIKAR

I. Answer the following question in about 30-40 words each:-

(a) Where is Professor Gaitonde heading and why?

(b) What information did Gangadhar Pant gather from Khan Sahib?

Answer the following questions in about 100-125 words each.

(a) What did Rajendra deshpane mean hen he says, you neither traveled to the past nor the future? You were in the present experiencing a different world.

CHAPTER 7 BIRTH BY A.J. CRONIN

i. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each :-

(a) What feelings did Andrew experience when the baby was still born?

(b) Describe the newborn child. What was the cause of its lifelessness?

(c) What method did Andrew use to revive the child?

II. Answer the following questions in about 100-125 words each:-

(a) What is your assessment of Dr. Andrew Manson?

(b) How does The Birth prove that there is great difference between textbook medicine and world of a practicing physician?

CLASS XI – SUBJECT – ENGLISH

ASSIGNMENT– IV NOV