

Sample Question Paper - 15
English Language And Literature (184)
Class - X, Session: 2021-22

TERM II

Time allowed : 2 Hours

Maximum marks : 40

General Instructions :

1. *The Question Paper contains Three Sections-Reading, Writing & Grammar and Literature.*
2. *Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*

SECTION - A (READING)

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

- (1) Big, bold and beautiful, the *Rafflesia arnoldii* boasts the title of the largest flower in the world and can grow to massive proportions, with a flower diameter of up to one meter (three feet) and a hefty weight of up to 11 kilograms (24 lbs). It might seem like a great gift for that special someone except that it's nicknamed the corpse flower and smells like rotting meat, so may not be quite as endearing as expected.
- (2) Resembling the coiled tentacles of an octopus up close, the stinky flower leaves such a lasting impression that it was once described by Swedish zoologist Eric Mjöberg in 1928 as having "a penetrating smell more repulsive than any buffalo carcass in an advanced stage of decomposition." Nice. Technically a plant, although it has no leaves, stems or roots that the eye can see, the corpse flower relies on its strong perfume to attract insects that help with pollination. The other not so pleasant qualities of the flower are its parasitic tendencies; by living off the water and nutrients from the hapless *Tetrastigma* vine, the corpse flower is able to grow as large as it does. And whether it's considered a beauty, beast, or both, the lure of this bewitching flower is hard to resist. However, to be successful in a quest to find it, a few stars need to align. Found only in the dwindling rainforests of Sumatra and Borneo, pollination is rare and the bud death rate is high at 80-90%. The few buds that actually bloom take many months to do so, and when they do they last no more than a few days before dying. The good news is that there are great conservation efforts in place to protect the habitat of the *Rafflesia* species so future generations can experience the sight and smell of the largest flower on Earth.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer ANY FIVE questions from the six given below:

(1 × 5 = 5)

- (i) Why is *Rafflesia arnoldii* called the biggest flower ?
- (ii) What is the nickname for *Rafflesia arnoldii* ?
- (iii) To what does the shape of the flower *Rafflesia arnoldii* resemble ?
- (iv) Where are the *Rafflesia arnoldii* flowers found ?
- (v) What is the stinky smell of the *Rafflesia arnoldii* flower used for ?
- (vi) What makes *Rafflesia arnoldii* rare ?

2. Read the following passage carefully.

- (1) According to a survey, out of the world's hundred richest people today, 27 are heirs and 73 are self-made. Of the self-made, 18 have no college degrees and 36 are children of poor parents, but some billionaires had neither a degree nor wealthy parents. In other words, super-achievers are not born, they are self-made people. It is not external favour that makes one a super-achiever, but one's own struggle. Super achievement is not achieved through inheritance, but is self-acquired success.
- (2) No one is a born billionaire, but everyone is a potential billionaire. It is the unfolding of one's own potential that makes one a billionaire or super achiever. Nature does not discriminate between one person and another. Nature's gifts come to everyone equally. It is the receiver himself who either utilizes them or not. So called deprived persons are in fact privileged persons. Their state of deprivation serves as inner motivation when they see others are progressing, it creates a strong incentive in their mind. It is this incentive that makes a person super. It inculcates strong urge in the individual to make something of his life.
- (3) Any state of deprivation brings about a kind brainstorming which enhances inner spirit. They enter the world of competition working to their full capacity. They develop the spirit of do or die. It is this spirit that leads them to success.
- (4) There are numerous examples of one rising to a high position through one's own struggle, while one's children might have turned 'dull'. The reason is simple. The parent started his life with the spirit of discontent; while his children started their lives with contentment. This reason is responsible for the difference between parents and children.
- (5) One who is born into a poor family and achieves success by way of struggle achieves one more thing, which is more important than wealth i.e. intellectual development. His circumstances automatically develop an intellectual struggle in his mind. This struggle unfolds his inner capacity, and consequently he emerges an intellectually developed person.
- (6) The laws of nature are greater than everything else. They are eternal they cannot be changed. The law of nature in this regard says that it is not ease but difficulty, effort not facility that makes achievers out of ordinary people. So the future is full of hope and opportunity!

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer ANY FIVE questions.

(1 × 5 = 5)

- (i) What does the idea of self-made imply ?
- (ii) What is the opinion of the author about super-achievers ?
- (iii) What is the logic of nature according to the author ?
- (iv) What motivates these deprived at birth to be a successful person ?
- (v) Why do children sometimes turn out dull ?
- (vi) How does being born into a poor family help the person become an intellectually developed person?

SECTION - B (WRITING AND GRAMMAR)

3. Attempt any one of the given questions.

(5)

You are Abhi/Abhinaya of 50A, Mukherjee Nagar, New Delhi. You want information about French language courses at French Embassy, Chankya Puri, New Delhi. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the Director inquiring about the same.

OR

Write a short analytical paragraph on the safety of women in India in about 100-120 words.

4. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Identify the error and write its correction against the correct blank number. Remember to underline the correction. The first has been done for you. (1 × 3 = 3)

	Error	Correction
Most tress has a single woody stem	<i>e.g.</i> , has	have
called a trunk who supports a mass of	(a) _____	_____
branches carrying leaves. Tress clean an	(b) _____	_____
air to removing tiny airborne particles.	(c) _____	_____

5. Read the conversation between customer and Manager and complete the passage that follows :

(1 × 2 = 2)

Customer : I'm Sai. I would like to open a bank account in your bank.
 Manager : You're most welcome. Let me introduce you to Mr. Rao who is in-charge of accounts.

The customer introduced himself as Sai to the Managers and said that _____ (a) _____.

The Manager welcomed him and introduced the customer to _____ (b) _____.

SECTION - C (LITERATURE)

6. Answer ANY SIX of the following in about 30-40 words.

(2 × 6 = 12)

- (i) How are animals different from humans?
- (ii) Why did the Tehsildar come to Ramlal's village? What did he ask Ramlal to do?
- (iii) What did Valli do after she got into the bus?
- (iv) Why did Lomov visit Chubukov?
- (v) Why was Mme Forestier shocked to hear Matilda's story?
- (vi) Why did viceroy butterflies copy monarchs?
- (vii) How did Siddhartha Gautama came to be known as the Buddha? Why did he name the peepal tree as the Bodhi tree?

7. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 120-150 words each.

(4 × 2 = 8)

- (i) What social attitudes are presented in the story, 'Bholi'? How does Bholi's teacher help her overcome these barriers?
- (ii) Is Oliver Lutkins a manipulative person or just a fun loving guy with a good sense of humour? How would you describe his character as?
- (iii) Describe the fight between the dragon and the pirate.

Solution

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE - 184

Class 10 - English Language And Literature

1. (i) *Rafflesia arnoldii* is called the biggest flower because its diameter is one meter and its weight is 11 kg.

(ii) *Rafflesia arnoldii* is nicknamed the corpse flower.

(iii) The shape of the flower *Rafflesia arnoldii* resembles the coiled tentacles of an octopus.

(iv) *Rafflesia arnoldii* flowers are found in the rainforests of Sumatra and Borneo.

(v) *Rafflesia arnoldii* flowers use its stinky smell to attract insects to help pollination.

(vi) *Rafflesia arnoldii* is rare because pollination is rare and the bud death rate is high at 80-90%.

2. (i) The idea of self-made means that one gets no financial help from parents and starts from the ground level by working one's way up.

(ii) The author is of opinion that super-achievers are not defined by their birth.

(iii) The author says that Nature's gifts are distributed equally to everyone.

(iv) Being in a state of deprivation makes one even more hungry for success and make a name for themselves.

(v) When children are born into an environment where everything was handed to them easily by their parents.

(vi) The struggles of poverty make their inner capacity unfold and make them become intellectually developed person.

3. India is known to be one of the most unsafe places for a woman to live in. The statistics alone is staggering. Crime against women especially sexual violence is quite high and frequent.

Concerns about safety restrict the mobility and activity of women and leave them with no choice but to strategise everything from timings to travel, how to walk, how to dress or commute. When we talk about women's safety, the biggest question is how do we keep our mothers, sisters and daughters safe against violence outside the house. Women are often stared at, molested and discriminated against. Not only outside the house, they are even discriminated against

at the workplace and in their homes. It is surely the responsibility of the government and each one of us strive for a safer world for women.

Effective implementation of strict laws protecting women's rights is the need of the hour. Offenders must be socially boycotted and severely punished to deter future crimes against women. Another imperative step is teaching self-defense techniques to women and girls at schools, colleges, offices and residential colonies.

As long as the mindset of people will not change, women can never be safe. All we need to do is to be alert and considerate. We have to develop basic morality and nurture a value system that teaches respect for women. Women are not safe anywhere in the globe until the thinking towards women changes. So the actual need of the hour is a revolutionary change in the mindsets and conscience of men so that they view women with regard and respect.

4. Error Correction

(a) who which

(b) an the

(c) to by

5. (a) he would like to open an account in his bank.

(b) Mr. Rao who was in-charge of accounts.

6. (i) The animals do not show anxiety or distress nor do they moan about the condition in which they live. The animals do not lie awake in the dark and weep for their sins.

(ii) The Tehsildar came to Ramlal's village to inaugurate the primary school. He asked Ramlal to set an example for others by sending his daughters to school.

(iii) Valli got into the bus and looked at everything very thoroughly. When she looked outside she found her view cut off by the canvas blind that covered the lower part of her window. So she stood upon the seat and peered over the blind.

(iv) Lomov was a young wealthy landowner and an unmarried man of thirty-five. He was anxious to get married as he had already reached a critical age. So he decided to propose Natalaya, a girl of twenty-five years old. He visited Chubukov to ask for his daughter Natalaya's hand in marriage.

(v) One Sunday, while walking, Matilda happened to see Mme Forestier. Matilda called her, but she could not recognise Matilda because she looked much older than her age. Mme Forestier was shocked to know that Matilda had suffered so much worrying about losing her necklace of real diamonds, whereas it was false.

(vii) Gautama sought explanation for the sufferings and hardships that afflicted the people of the world. He wandered for seven years before finally sitting down under peepal tree. He vowed to stay there until enlightenment came. Enlightened after seven days, he renamed the tree under which he sat and attained enlightenment Bodhi Tree or Tree of Wisdom. He began to share his newly found knowledge and at that point he came to be known as the Buddha, the Awakened or the Enlightened one.

7. (i) Bholi was neglected by her parents on account of her looks and lack of intelligence. She was sent to school as her mother thought her to be a burden and let the teachers at school worry about her. Ironically, the teachers transformed her life completely. Bholi did not know what exactly a school was and what

happened there, in the class when her teacher asked her name, she stammered and began to cry. She kept her head down throughout the class. The teacher was very encouraging and friendly to her and this made her gain confidence to speak.

She started seeing a ray of hope for a new life. After years of gaining education and with the help of her teacher, Bholi turned into a confident girl. She no longer stammered and could speak properly. She even had the courage to refuse marrying the lame old man because he was greedy and asked money from her father to marry her.

(iii) The dragon had big sharp teeth, and spikes on top of him and scales underneath, he can also spit fire from his mouth but everyone in the house made fun of him and laughed at him as he always cried for a safe cage. But everyone who boasted about their bravery ran away for safe shelter when faced with a difficult situation. As when the pirate entered, all became scared and ran away and disappeared except Custard who faced him boldly, attacked him, hit him hard with his forceful tail and gobbled every bit of him. All of them later felt obliged to Custard for saving their lives.