

**INTERNATIONAL INDIAN SCHOOL BURAI DAH**

TERM EXAMINATION (2019 – 2020)

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

CLASS: XII

Date: 13/6/19

Duration: 3 Hours

Max.Marks:80

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**Section A – (READING) [20 Marks]**

**Q1. Read the passage and on the basis of your understanding of the passage answer the questions given below: (12)**

1. A fisherman, enfeebled with age, could no longer go out to sea so he began fishing in the river. Every morning he would go down to the river and sit there fishing the whole day long. In the evening he would sell whatever he had caught, buy food for himself and go home. It was a hard life for an old man. One hot afternoon while he was trying to keep awake and bemoaning his fate, a large bird with silvery feathers alighted on a rock near him. It was Kaha, the heavenly bird. “Have you no one to care for you, grandpa?” asked the bird. “Not a soul.” “You should not be doing such work at your age,” said the bird. “From now on I will bring you a big fish every evening. You can sell it and live in comfort.” True to her word, the bird began to drop a large fish at his doorstep every evening. All that the fisherman had to do was take it to the market and sell it. As big fish were in great demand, he was soon rolling in money. He bought a cottage near the sea, with a garden around it and engaged a servant to cook for him. His wife had died some years earlier. He had decided to marry again and began to look for a suitable woman.

2. One day he heard the royal courtier make an announcement. Our king has news of a great bird called Kaha,” said the courtier. “Whoever can give information about this bird and help catch it, will be rewarded with half the gold in the royal treasury and half the kingdom!” The fisherman was sorely tempted by the reward. Half the kingdom would make him a prince!

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3. “Why does the king want the bird ?” he asked. “He has lost his sight,” explained the courtier. “A wise man has advised him to bathe his eyes with the blood of Kaha. Do you know where she can be found?” “No...I mean ...no, no...” Torn between greed and his sense of gratitude to the bird, the fisherman could not give a coherent reply. The courtier, sensing that he knew something about the bird, informed the king. The king had him brought to the palace.

4. “If you have information about the bird, tell me,” urged the king. “I will reward you handsomely and if you help catch her, I will personally crown you king of half my domain.” “I will get the bird for you,” cried the fisherman, suddenly making up his mind. “But Kaha is strong. I will need help.” The king sent a dozen soldiers with him. That evening when the bird came with the fish, the fisherman called out to her to wait. “You drop the fish and go and I never get a chance to thank you for all that you’ve done for me,” he said. “Today I have laid out a feast for you inside. Please alight and come in.” Kaha was reluctant to accept the invitation but the fisherman pleaded so earnestly that she finally gave in, and alighted. The moment she was on the ground, the fisherman grabbed one of her legs and shouted to the soldiers hiding in his house to come out. They rushed to his aid but their combined effort could not keep Kaha down.

5. She rose into the air with the fisherman still clinging onto her leg. By the time he realised he was being carried away, the fisherman was too high in the air to let go. He hung on grimly, and neither he nor Kaha were ever seen again.

1.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer each of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:

(1X5=5)

(a) Why was the king desperately looking for Kaha the bird ?

i. The king wanted a pet bird.

ii. A wise man advised the king to capture the bird for good luck.

iii. Kaha was the only heavenly bird with silvery feathers.

iv. The king was blind and required Kaha’s blood for his eyes.

(b) Why did the bird volunteer to bring fish for the old man ?

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- i. The old man was inexperienced at fishing.
  - ii. The bird took pity on the old man and wanted to help him.
  - iii. The bird had caught more fish than required.
  - iv. The bird wanted to make the old man rich.

(c) What led the courtier to sense that the fisherman might know something about Kaha ?

- i. The courtier had observed Kaha alight at the fisherman's house every evening.
- ii. The courtier had seen the fisherman talk to Kaha.
- iii. The fisherman fumbled when asked about Kaha.
- iv. Word went around that the fisherman was in contact with Kaha.

(d) Which of the following is not true about Kaha ?

- i. Kaha was a very considerate bird
- ii. The blood of Kaha was precious.
- iii. Kaha was a strong bird.
- iv. Kaha saved the fisherman from the King's wrath.

(e) Antonym of the word "Released" (Para 4) is:

- i. Grabbed
- ii. Set free
- iii. Liberated
- iv. Let go

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly: (1X7=7)

- a. Why did the fisherman stammer when asked if he knew about the bird?
- b. How did the fisherman get Kaha to come down?
- c. What does the phrase 'rolling in money' in the passage refer to ?

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- d. Why was the fisherman doubtful about revealing information about Kaha to the courtier ?
- e. Mention two traits of farmer's character revealed through the story.
- f. How did the bird manage to escape?
- g. Pick out the word/phrase from the passage which is opposite in meaning to "Take off" (Para 1)

**Q2. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: (8)**

(1) Fashion is a force—a powerful force of constantly altering patterns of change and growth. Its constant movement affects the fate of the designers and manufacturers, who distribute it and of course, the lives of the consumers, who follow what it dictates. All of its facets taken together add up to a multimillion dollar industry. Fashion today means mega bucks.

(2) Fashion is also a science. It involves known facts and basic principles, and its actions and reaction can be predicted as these are based on those facts and principles. Fashion is one of those distinct and unique trades that are highly dependent on the environment and the changes that are continuously taking place in it.

(3) For one to make it to the top in the fashion business and stay there, one has to continue to discover and innovate to fulfill the needs and wants of the customers. For this, most of the top designers such as Yves Saint Laurent, Karl Lagerfeld, Claiborne, etc., all rely upon their creativity backed by years of invaluable experience. In this line of work, instinct and intuition, play a very major role.

(4) As the power of fashion to influence our lives grows, a number of misconceptions about it continue to abound. The most common of these is that the designers and the retailers dictate what the fashion will be, and force their fancies on the helpless consumers. In reality it is the consumers themselves, who dictate what the fashions will be, by either accepting or rejecting the styles and trends that are offered. They are truly, as one 'fashion guru' once said, "Variety vultures."

(5) The second misconception is that fashion acts as an influence on women only. Men today, are as much influenced by and, responsive to fashion, as women. In point of fact, the male fashion industry has been growing at a dizzying rate. Yes, there was a time when menswear was not exactly worth talking about. It was staid

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and unimaginative. But that does not mean that men did not dress-up according to the latest trends of the day.

(6) There were changes in Western dressing that followed the dictates of the designers and the fashionable elite trends-setters. These gave the fashion world the drainpipes in the '60s, the popular safaris in the '70s, the denims in the '80s and the ethnic wear that has caught on these days.

(7) Fashion today is more lifestyle oriented and quite practical. The modern male and female want to dress differently for office and leisure. Designers are becoming more daring, the women as well as the menfolk have a wide choice. There are different designs for every moment of a busy social schedule-from work, lunch to afternoon tea, cocktails, dinner and gala banquets.

(8) Lastly, fashion is the force that causes women to raise and lower their skirtlength, straighten or fizz their hair and change from sportswear to dressy clothes. Fashion is, also that force that influences men to grow or shave off their moustaches and beards, choose wide or narrow ties and lapels and change from casual jeans into three piece suits and tuxedo. It is indeed this dynamic and varied force that adds spice and colour to our life.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. (4)

(b) Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words. (4)

### **Section B - (ADVANCED WRITING SKILLS) [30 Marks]**

Q3. Very soon your school is going to be a centre for CBSE examinations. You have seen that during lunch break students of junior classes keep going around the examination rooms and make all kinds of noises. You are Navtej / Navita, Head Boy / Head Girl, Akash Public School, Ajmer. Write a notice in about 50 words warning such students not to go near the examination rooms. (4)

OR

You want to offer paying guest accommodation on the first floor of your house. Draft an advertisement in about 50 words giving details of the premises, amenities provided, terms and conditions. You are Karuna/Karan, M114, Mall Road, Delhi.

(4)

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Q4. You are Neeraj / Neeraja Shekhar, Principal, Vasant Public School, Pune. Your school has just started a music department. Write a letter to the Manager of Melody House, Pune, wholesale suppliers of musical instruments, placing an order for musical instruments for the school. Ask for a discount on the catalogue prices. (120-150 words) (6)

OR

You are the Physical Education Instructor of All Saints School. You had placed an order for sports goods with Bat and Ball Enterprises. When the items arrived you found that some of them were defective. Write a letter to the Manager, Bat and Ball Enterprises, asking him to replace the defective items. (120 - 150 words) (6)

Q5. 'Old age homes are not required in India.' Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against the motion. (10)

OR

You are Ali/Alia, Head girl / Head boy of your school. You are deeply disturbed by the rising cases of aggressive behaviour of students in your school. You decide to speak during the morning assembly about it. Write a speech on 'Indiscipline in Schools'. (150 – 200 words) (10)

Q6. You saw a stray dog beaten to death by a group of boys. Their act infuriated you and you scolded them for their cruel act. You decided to write an article on cruelty to animals. Write the article in 150 – 200 words. You are Nikhil / Naina. (10)

OR

MMD School, Nashik, recently organised a science symposium on the topic : 'Effect of pollution on quality of life'. You are Amit/Amita Raazdan, editor of the school magazine. Write a report on the event for your school magazine. (150 – 200 words) (10)

**SECTION: C (LITERATURE:TEXT BOOKS) (30 Marks)**

**Q7. Read the following extracts and answer the following questions briefly:**

**(1x4=4)**

***1. I looked again at her, wan, pale***

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*as a late winter's moon and felt that old  
familiar ache, my childhood's fear,*

- (a) Who is 'her' ?
- (b) Why did the poet look at 'her' again ?
- (c) What was the poet's childhood fear ?
- (d) Identify the figure of speech used in these lines.

**2. "What a thunderclap these words were to me".** (1x4=4)

- (a) Who is the narrator?
- (b) What is the meaning of the word "thunderclap" here?
- (c) What was the news that came as a thunderclap to the narrator?
- (d) Name the story and author of the above extract.

**Q8. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words:** (2X5=10)

- 1. What does Stephen Spender want to be done for the children of the school in a slum?
- 2. How did Saheb's life change at the tea stall?
- 3. What is Gondwana?
- 4. What peculiar things does Charley notice on the third level?
- 5. Which two incidents in Douglas' early life made him scared of water?
- 6. What does the poem 'Keeping Quiet' teach us?
- 7. What did the rattrap seller think of the world?

**Q 9. Answer the following question in 120-125 words:** (6)

The entire classroom, M. Hamel as well as those present in the class, is full of regret. For what and why?

OR

Why did the crofter repose confidence in the peddler? How did the peddler betray that and with what consequences?

**Q 10. Answer the following question in 120-125 words:** (6)

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Even today so many among us believe in superstitions. An astrologer predicted about 'the Tiger King' that he would be killed by a tiger. He 'killed' one hundred tigers yet was himself 'killed' by a tiger. How did the superstitious belief 'prevail'?

OR

By whom and with what objective was the "Students on Ice" Programme started? How far has it achieved its goals?