

MT EDUCARE LTD.

QUEST - II (Semi Prelim II)
(2017-18)

Portion - Fiction : 4,5,6 Poetry : 4,5,6 Drama : 2

CBSE - X

Set - A

Roll No.

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Code No. **101**

Series RLH

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This paper consists of three sections :• Section A – Reading (20 marks)• Section B – Writing and Grammar (30 marks)• Section C – Literature (30 marks) |
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ENGLISH

Time allowed : 3.00 hours

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

- Attempt all questions.
- Do not write anything on the question paper.
- Answer the questions in each section before going on to the next section.
- All the answers must be correctly numbered as given in the question paper and written in the answer sheet provided to you.
- Read each question carefully and follow the instructions.

SECTION - A (Reading)
(20 Marks)

Q.1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it : **[8]**

The first important traveller to India was a Greek named Megasthenes. He lived here for a number of years and wrote about our country and people in his book 'Indika'. This is not available now, but some little pieces are still there. With their help, it is possible to make a picture of India as it was at that time.

About 2400 years ago, Seleokos, a general of Alexander the great tried to recapture the territories, once held by his master but afterwards conquered by Chandragupta Maurya. Chandragupta defeated him in 305 BC. The defeated Seleokos sent Megasthenes as his ambassador to the court of Chandragupta. Megasthenes observed our two largest rivers, the Ganges and the Sindhu. These rivers were used for journeys only during the rainy season they could not be used because they were flooded. Roads were also used and the best known road ran from the North-West to Patliputra. It had shady trees, signposts, rest houses and wells along it and may be called forerunner of the present Grand Trunk Road.

The numerous trees that grew in India also attracted his attention. The banyan tree, whose branches grew downwards and took root, particularly charmed him. About the people of India, Megasthenes says that Indians were generally tall and slim. Most people wore white cotton dress, which contrasted with their dark complexion. The rich however wore gaily coloured linen clothes. They wore ivory earrings and gold ornaments.

Megasthenes undoubtedly admired the Indian character. He says that the Indians behaved in an orderly manner. They just followed their customs and traditions. They did not care for written contracts. In busine deals they took a man at his word.

1.1 Attempt any EIGHT of the following questions on the basis of the passage you have read : **[1 × 8 = 8]**

- i. How do we know Megasthenes' views on India when his book is lost? **[1]**
- ii. When and why could the Ganges and the Sindhu not be used? **[1]**
- iii. How did the Indians decorate themselves during Megasthenes' time? **[1]**
- iv. How does Megasthenes support the fact that the Indians were disciplined and honest? **[1]**
- v. Which tree charmed Megasthenes and why? **[1]**
- vi. Megasthenes wrote about India in his book **[1]**
- vii. Megasthenes reached India as an ambassador of **[1]**
- viii. was the most popular road of the time. **[1]**
- ix. Chandragupta defeated in 305 BC. **[1]**

Q.2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow from the options given below : [12]

If we are what we eat, then we are in big trouble. According to some environmentalists, each day brings some horrors to light. First it was reported that our mineral water, which we believed was absolutely pure and safe to drink, was found to contain high levels of toxic matter. Then popular soft drinks were found to be contaminated.

This is because much of our food and water contains a host of pesticides, for which no safety limits have been set. The consequences are devastating, for even a study of just three of the commonly used pesticides revealed alarming health hazards. It has been found that DDT causes liver cirrhosis, as well as endocrine reproductive organ damage. Endosulfan, another commonly used pesticide, affects the kidneys and causes disorders among unborn children. It even increases chances of cancer. Lindane, a pesticide used in India causes chronic liver disease. All the above pesticides cause learning disabilities among children and result in a slowing down of their mental capacities.

But not all environmentalists are in agreement with the idea that pesticides in food are the cause of poor health conditions. They argue that if elite environmentalists were to have their way, they would probably go to the extent of banning tractors in fields, saying that their diesel emissions caused pollution. Elsewhere in the world, the environmentalists of this extreme kind have campaigned against even the limited use of pesticides and that too in places that needed them the most. As a result, many of the international agencies, including the World Bank, turned away from supporting science based agricultural programmes so urgently required in regions like sub-Saharan Africa.

Perhaps the greatest argument to counter these forebodings is the fact that despite consuming pesticide contaminated food, Indians have increased their lifespan. The life expectancy would not have touched 61 from a mere 48 in 1950 if pesticide consumption in our food were such an alarming factor. Today's children are taller, healthier and more multi-talented. Sound scientific analysis therefore is the basis of healthy food production and the foundation of food safety. Proper hygiene in food consumption and preparation are the best ways to ensure healthy living.

2.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any FOUR of the following questions in about 30-40 words each. [2 × 4 = 8]

- i. Why are we in big trouble ? [2]
- ii. What is the passage trying to convey? [2]
- iii. How are pesticides harmful to us? [2]
- iv. Why is there a clash between environmentalists regarding the ill-effects of pesticides? [2]
- v. How can one ensure healthy living? [2]

2.2 Fill in the blanks with suitable words / phrases. Attempt any TWO :

- i. _____ used in India causes chronic liver diseases. [1]
 ii. _____ affects kidneys and causes disorders among unborn children. [1]
 iii. DDT causes _____ . [1]

2.3 Choose the correct option from those given below. Attempt any TWO :

- i. The word in para 2 which is a synonym of 'catastrophic' is _____. [1]
 (a) devastating (b) slowing (c) banning (d) supporting
- ii. The word in para 1 which is a synonym of 'poisonous' is _____. [1]
 (a) pesticide (b) toxic (c) contaminated (d) alarming
- iii. The word in para 2 which is a synonym of 'guarantee' is _____. [1]
 (a) counter (b) mere (c) ensure (d) alarming

SECTION - B (Writing Skills and Grammar)**(30 Marks)****Q.3.**

- (a) You are Deepakshi/Deepak Taneja, a resident of sector 24, 'Vaibhavi'. The children in your neighbourhood are forced to play on the street for want of a proper play area. Write a letter to the Editor of a popular newspaper, pointing out the need for a playground in your neighbourhood. You can use the hints given below. (100- 120 words)

- Our duty to provide basic facilities to our children
- Playing on busy streets hazardous to their lives
- Lack of outdoor activities and physical fitness
- Playing essential to relax, refresh and develop sportsmanship

[8]**OR**

- (b) You are Samrat, a student of Class X and a resident of Mumbai. You are interested in learning French in your summer vacations. Write a letter to the Director of Language Learning Institute, Colaba asking him about the various courses offered by the institute for French learners in summer vacations.

Q.4. Using the beginning given below develop a story in 200-250 words with a suitable title. Attempt any ONE:**[10]**

- (a) "It was a cloudy morning when"

OR

- (b) 'As I reached home, I realised that I had forgotten the keys. There was still an hour for my brother to turn up. So, I decided to go to the terrace.....'

Q.5. In the news story given below, fill in the blanks with the correct forms of the verbs given in brackets. Attempt any EIGHT : [½ × 8 = 4]

The police (a) (has) just (b) (announce) that the local State Bank (c)(rob) yesterday. Two men (d) (enter) the bank at 12 noon with guns in their hands. Customers and bank clerks (e) (ask) to lie down on the floor and one of the bank clerks (f) (make) to fill the robbers' bags with money. After that the two men (g) (leave) the bank quickly. Police Inspector Karan Saxena says that more than ₹ 4 crores (h)(steal) yesterday, but nobody (i)..... (injure).

Q.6. The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each of the lines. Write the incorrect word and the correction against the correct blank number. Attempt any EIGHT : [½ × 8 = 4]

	Incorrect	Correct
(a) Inactivity is the greater cause of obesity
(b) these days. People physical activity
(c) had decreased these days. The main reason
(d) is because there are many labour saved devices.
(e) They does not want to walk on foot.
(f) They spend enough time sitting
(g) and watch television. Their excess weight
(h) make them quite sick. Unless concrete steps
(i) is taken obesity will continue to affect humanity

Q.7. Read the given conversation and complete the following passage.
Attempt any FOUR blanks: [4]

Interviewer : Was shooting in Kashmir challenging?
 Santosh : Filming in any place is difficult, but in Kashmir it was even more difficult because wanted to capture the first snowfall.
 Interviewer : How did the locals react to it?
 Santosh : Many of the locals assisted us during the making of the film and we also got some great help from the Army.

The interviewer asked Santosh (a) Santosh replied that filming in any place was difficult but (b) The interviewer wanted to know (c)..... Santosh told him that (d) during the making of the film and they (e)..... the Army.

SECTION - C (Literature and Long Reading Text)
(30 Marks)

Q.8. (a) Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions that follow: **[4 × 1 = 4]**

'That was my idea' said Sebastian excitedly. 'If only it would go a bit faster.'

Questions

- (a) Where was Sebastian when he spoke these words?
- (b) What was his idea, and what was he referring to ?
- (c) Was the idea a good one, and did it eventually succeed? How?
- (d) Who is with Sebastian ? Why is he with him ?

OR

Q.8. (b) Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow : **[4 × 1 = 4]**

"Ah! Well a day! What evil looks
Had I from old and young!
Instead of the cross, the Albatross
About my neck was hung"

Questions

- (a) Who were the 'old and young' here?
- (b) Why did the people cast evil looks?
- (c) Why was the Albatross hung around the Mariner's neck?
- (d) Who is speaking the above words ? To Whom ?

Q.9. Attempt any FOUR of the following in about 30 to 40 words each :[4 × 2 = 8]

- (i) Why couldn't John give his whole time to writing?
- (ii) Why did Mr. Mullick turn down Patol Babu's request for a rehearsal?
- (iii) Bring out the irony in the poem, - 'Ozymandias'.
- (iv) What did Calpurnia dream about Caesar? How does Decius Brutus interpret the dream ?
- (v) What sufferings do the shipmates undergo in the silent sea?

Q.10. Answer the following in 100 - 120 words : **[8]**

- (a) We can safely say that Mark Antony is a better orator than Brutus. What makes him superior in this ability? Their respective speeches also act like a mirror to their innate natures. Would you agree?

OR

- (b) Why does the poet experience feelings of self-derision, guilt and regret after throwing a log at the snake?

Q.11. ATTEMPT ANY ONE QUESTION from Q.11(A) or Q.11 (B) in about 200 - 250 words.

[10]

Q.11. (A) The Diary of a Young Girl : Anne Frank

- (i) Mention the restrictions imposed on the Jews by the Germans.

OR

- (ii) Describe the verbal fight between Anne and Dr. Dussel over the use of the room table.

OR

Q.11. (B) The Story of My Life : Helen Keller

- (i) 'Helen was upset with the doll that her aunt gifted her'. Discuss the statement in your words.

OR

- (ii) How did Helen learn about 'love'?