

**ENGLISH
CLASS X**

SECTION A (READING – 20 MARKS)

AI Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow(8 marks):

Crocodiles will never openly attack, and they will not even defend their own eggs; directly you attempt to land into the water they go. It is unwise, however, to stand too close to the riverbank, especially at dusk. The crocodile does not lunge out at you with its jaws; instead, having observed you carefully from midstream, he will swim submerged into the shallow, and with scythe like movement of his tail he sweeps into the water. One of the African boys in the park had been taken like this a few days before we arrived, and it was no rare thing, we were told, for the baby elephants to meet their end in just this way when they come down the river to drink. Then the mother elephant goes raging along the bank quite powerless to retaliate.

The crocodile itself has mortal enemies, and not many of the sixty or seventy eggs, which the female lays like a turtle, in the hole in the sand banks are destined to survive. Having laid her eggs the mother covers up the hole and then sometimes departs. This is the moment for the monitor lizard to creep out of the undergrowth, to scrape the sand away and then to gorge on these eggs. Even if the nest remains undiscovered the young crocodiles which hatch out of these eggs need a good deal of luck to survive. They come struggling to the surface of the sand, little ten inch long rubbery things and make directly for the water hissing and snapping as they run.

Now answer the following passage as briefly as possible:

a) Complete the given passage using *one word only*. (4)

It is not (i) _____ to stand too close to the riverbank. There may be a crocodile (ii) _____ you. Crocodiles (iii) _____ their victims (iv) _____. They lie (v) _____ in the shallow and (vi) _____ with a (vii) _____ movement of the tail (viii) _____ their prey into the water.

- b) The phrase “mortal enemy” means _____. (1)
- c) A female crocodile lays its _____ eggs. (1)
- d) The young crocodiles are _____ in size. (1)
- e) What does a monitor lizard feed on? (1)

A2: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow (12 marks)

SINGAPORE: BREATHING EASY

Peak hour traffic scenario in India is a cartoonist’s delight – hassled motorists, rivers of sweat streaming down their forehead, accusing each other for lack of traffic sense in loud voices – toned by the honking of a thousand horns. This is not so in Singapore. It is almost legendary now that one of Asia’s wealthiest cities has one of the calmest traffic too. For ten years they have been able to maintain air pollution levels as per World Health Organization (WHO) and United States Environmental Protection Agency air quality standards.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, a number of major land use and transportation studies were carried out to prepare long-term plans for Singapore’s development. It was evident to the planners that traffic congestion had to be addressed first as building more and more roads was not a useful option for Singapore due to the lesser land availability.

Singapore has followed simple, but firm rules. One-it introduced severe economic restrictions on car-ownership and use; two, it improved transit systems dramatically; and lastly, it promoted pedestrian traffic and non-motorized transport.

Planners aimed to minimize the need to travel by putting in order the location and commercial areas. Besides they developed a vast road network system; and used technology to maximize the use of roads. Transportation routes consisting of an expressway and mass rapid transit (MRT) lines were developed.

But the key to the success of these measures was public acceptability, which means the whole exercise had to be done in a phased manner.

A2.1 Complete the following sentences:

- (a) Despite being the wealthiest country in Asia, Singapore _____ (1)

(b) The agencies which provide standards for air quality are _____ and _____

_____. (2)

(c) Singapore could maintain good air quality by promoting _____ (2)

(i) economic restrictions on car-ownership

(ii) _____

(iii) pedestrian traffic

(iv) _____

(d) Planners in Singapore were aware that the solution to the problem of _____ was to be found on priority. (1)

(e) In order to reduce the traffic problem, the planners took the following steps: (2)

(i) Minimized the need to travel by locating residential and commercial areas suitably.

(ii) _____ maximized road capacity by putting technology to proper use.

(iii) _____

(f) The most important factor to the whole issue of keeping traffic pollution under check in Singapore has been the _____ . (1)

A2.2. Find out words from the passage that means the same as the following: (3)

1. Circumstances (Para 1)

2. Dealt with (Para2)

3. Limitations (Para 3)

SECTION B (WRITING – 30 MARKS)

B1. You are Rekha/Ravi. You are to attend a swimming coaching camp at Chennai from 16th to 22nd of April. Write a telegram to your friend Rakesh/Rajani in Chennai asking him/her to meet you at the station and take you to the club where accommodation is arranged, as the place is not familiar to you. Copy down the format of the telegram form given below. (5)

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPH | |
| Address of the Addressee | Name: Address: Telegraph Office: |
| MESSAGE: | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| SENDER'S NAME | |
| SENDER'S ADDRESS : | |
| NOT TO BE TELEGRAPHED | |

B2. You are Kartik Basu, head boy of your school. A group of your school students are involved in a literacy project. As your school is offering a scholarship for the economically deprived children you are required to put up a notice on the school notice board informing other students to bring their learners for a basic qualifying test to be held on 12 February. (5)

B3. You are the youth secretary of your school. You have to mobilize some students for a social service campaign against illiteracy in a colony your school has adopted. Write a speech to be given in the assembly, mentioning the facts pertaining to illiteracy in India and also extolling virtues of literacy. Your aim is to invite the students to join in large numbers for this campaign. (10)

B2 You have graduated from an Engineering College recently. Many of your friends who studied with you have decided to go abroad for further studies or better prospects. Write a letter to the editor, Times of India about how you feel about this Brain Drain. (10)

SECTION C (GRAMMAR – 20 MARKS)

C1. Read the information given below and fill in the gaps in the paragraph appropriately. Do not add any extra information. (5)

Man – numerous ways to express feelings – has evolved into an intelligent life form – animals express feelings through facial expressions – focus eyes, ears, nose on the other animal – understanding the mood – they have only limited flexibility.

Man has a (a) _____. This is the result of (b) _____. When animals have to (c) _____. They keep their eyes (d) _____ for most animals (e) _____.

C2. Read the dialogue given below. Based on your reading complete the following paragraph suitably. (6 x ½ = 3)

Mrs.Sharma: My gold chain is missing!! And I can't find our servant!!

Mr.Sharma: When did you last see it? Where had you kept it?

Mrs.Sharma: Right here. On the table. I saw it yesterday evening. I am sure our servant has taken it and run away.

Mrs.Sharma (a) _____
_____ was missing. Her husband wanted to know (b) _____
_____ and (c) _____
kept it. Mrs Sharma replied that (d) _____
_____ and that (e) _____
_____ evening. She was sure (f) _____
_____.

C3. Below you can see a set of instructions for making tea. Based on these instructions complete the passage given. The first one has been done as an example.
(6 x ½ = 3)

Take two cups of water and bring it to a boil. Add 1 ½ teaspoons of tea powder. Reduce the flame of the stove and let it simmer for one minute. Then switch the stove off and strain the decoction into a pot. Add half a cup of hot milk and sugar to taste. Pour into cups and serve with biscuits.

Two cups of water are taken and (a)_____ a boil. When the water is boiling 1-½ teaspoons of (b)_____. The flame (c) _____ and the mixture is allowed to simmer for one minute. Then the stove (d) _____ and the decoction (e) _____ a pot. Half a cup of hot milk is then added followed by adding sugar to taste. The tea is ready and (f) _____ and served with biscuits.

C4. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Underline each error and write your correction the space provided. The first correction has been done for you as an example. (6 x ½ = 3)

| | |
|---|---------------|
| In <u>a</u> larger interests of the school, the | _____the_____ |
| principal, the teachers or the students | _____ |
| must all be involved with subtle | _____ |
| relationship-building exercises each year. | _____xxx_____ |
| This require a lot of effort, understanding | _____ |
| and planning, but the reward | _____ |
| are well worth it all. In the end of the | _____ |
| first week, the students would had | _____ |
| settled down in their new classes. | _____xxx_____ |

C5. In the following paragraph one word is omitted from each line. Identify from where this word has been omitted and put a '/' there and write the word in the space provided. The first one has been done for you. ($\frac{1}{2} \times 6 = 3$)

The Swiss take pride / their lush landscapes. From in
mid-May to September every year tourists head the _____
annual display of wild flowers in Alpine meadows _____
of Switzerland. There also find peace. The silence _____
is broken only the occasional tinkling of cowbells. _____
Strictly speaking, term Alpine meadows refers only _____
some regions in the mountain ranges. _____

C2. Look at the words and phrases below. Rearrange them to form meaningful sentences. The first one has been done for you as an example.
($\frac{1}{2} \times 6 = 3$)

The watermelon/ thirst quenchers / in summers / is / one of the best

- (a) around / it is / 96 countries / cultivated in / the world
- (b) in Africa / about 5000 years / grown / ago / it was / first
- (c) say that / at the / it was grown / some researchers / same time / in India
- (d) the travelers / across the desert / it was / when they / used by / traveled
- (e) the fruit / China and Japan / by the / was grown in / 10th century
- (f) very popular / it is / the African slaves / took it / to the / where / U.S.A.

The watermelon is one of the best thirst quenchers in summers.

SECTION D (LITERATURE – 30 MARKS)

D1. Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

*Next night when the Nightingale
Shook her head and twitched her tail,
Closed an eye and fluffed a wing
And had cleared her throat to sing
She was startled by a croak*

- (a) How do you know the nightingale was getting ready to sing? Pick up relevant expressions. (1)
- (b) What startled the nightingale? (1)
- (c) What happens to the nightingale in the end and why? (2)

D2. Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

*If even
I were as in my boyhood, and could be
The comrade of thy wanderings over Heaven,
As then, when to outstrip thy skiey speed
Scarce seem'd a vision; I would never have striven
As thus with thee in prayer in my sore need.*

- (a) Who is the poet addressing in these lines? (1)
- (b) What could the poet do in his boyhood that he cannot do now? (1)
- (c) What is the poet's prayer? (2)

D3. In the poem 'Rime of the Ancient Mariner', what are the misfortunes faced by the sailors during their voyage? What is the ancient mariner's penance and why does he feel that he is responsible for the misfortunes?

(5)

D4. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

*If I could pray to move, prayers would move me:
But I am constant as the northern star,
Of whose tru-fix'd and resting quality
There is no fellow in the firmament.*

- (a) In the play 'Julius Caesar' when does Caesar speak these words? (2)
- (b) What is the figure of speech in this extract and explain its use contextually. (2)
- (c) Which character trait of Julius Caesar is obvious in this extract? (1)

D5. What is the significance of the title of the story 'The Ultimate Safari'?

(4)

D6. Imagine you are Ali and have borne silently the insult heaped on you by the postmaster and the others in the post office. You decide to write your feelings in your diary. Write the diary entry in not more than 200 words (8)