

# NEW AL WUROOD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, JEDDAH

Affiliated to CBSE – New Delhi, No:5730008



## Pre-Midterm Examination (2017 -2018)

**Subject: ENGLISH**

**Date:08/06/2017**

**Set: A**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Class: X**

**Max. Marks: 80**

**The question paper is divided into three sections:**

**Section A: Reading - 20 Marks**

**Section B: Writing & Grammar - 30 Marks**

**Section C: Literature Textbook & Extended Reading Text - 30 Marks**

### General Instructions:

- 1. All questions are compulsory.**
- 2. You may attempt any section at a time.**
- 3. All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.**

### **SECTION A: READING**

**20 Marks**

- 1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. 8 Marks**

One of the greatest advances in modern technology has been the invention of computers. They are widely used in industries and in universities. Now there is hardly any sphere of human life where computers have not been pressed into service of man. We are heading fast towards the day when a computer will be as much part of man's daily life as a telephone or a calculator.

Computers are capable of doing extremely complicated work in all branches of learning. They can solve the most complex mathematical problems or put thousands of unrelated facts in order. These machines can be put to varied uses. For instance, they can provide information on the best way to prevent traffic jams. This whole process by which machines can be used to work for us has been called 'automation'. In the future 'automation' may enable human beings to enjoy more leisure than they do today. The coming of automation is bound to have important social consequences.

Some years ago an expert on automation, Sir Leon Bagrit, pointed out that it was a mistake to believe that these machines could 'think'. There is no possibility that human beings will be 'controlled by machines'. Though computers are capable of learning from their mistakes, they need detailed instructions from human beings to operate. They can never, as it were, lead independent lives or 'rule the world' by making decisions of their own.

Sir Leon said that in future, computers would be developed which would be small enough to carry in the pocket. Ordinary people would then be able to use them to obtain valuable information. Computers could be plugged into a national network and be used like radios. For instance, people going on holiday could be informed about weather conditions. Car drivers can be given alternative routes when there are traffic jams. It will also be possible to make tiny translating machines which will enable people to talk to each other without any difficulty, or to read foreign publications.

- (a) What is the greatest advancement in modern technology?
- (b) What complicated works are computers capable of doing?
- (c) Write one use of computers.
- (d) What is 'automation'?
- (e) Why can't computers lead independent lives or rule the world?
- (f) How would computers as translating machines help people?
- (g) What was the prediction of Sir Leon about computers in future?
- (h) Write the word from the passage which is the opposite of the word 'incompetent'. (Para 4)

## **2. Read the passage given below.**

1. If you look at a newspaper you will see that most of the items of news indicate where they come from. At the head of some of them is printed, 'from our own correspondent'. This means that the newspaper has a man or woman belonging to its staff 'covering' certain happenings, and sending in 'exclusive' reports to the newspaper office. Messages 'from our own correspondent' are usually concerned with important happenings which were foreseen, so the correspondents could be sent to cover them. Or they are from some important city, where the newspapers consider it worthwhile to employ a reporter or correspondent permanently.

2. At the end of other news stories you will find 'British United Press' (or just 'B.U.P.'), or 'Associated Press', or, most commonly, the word 'Reuter'. These are news agencies. News agencies are firms whose business is to collect news and sell it to newspapers and radio systems all over the world. It is with one of these agencies, Reuters (pronounced Roy-ters), that we are concerned.

3. In the old days, there were quicker ways of sending messages; for example, the Romans built signal stations along the East coast of Britain, so that they could send signals by smoke and fire if the barbarians approached the coast in their ships. But this was making signals, rather than sending news.

4. Another method of sending news was by pigeon. The carrier pigeon, like the cat, is extremely attached to its home, and if a traveler wanted to send a message back to his starting point, he fixed it to a pigeon which he had taken with him. The bird once set free, flew straight back to its loft, and the message could then be taken from its leg.
5. The invention of the electric telegraph and the Morse Code, and, later, of wireless, speeded up the sending of news. But before news could be sent it had to be collected. Paul Julius Reuter did more than any other man to organize the collection and distribution of news.

**I. Answer the following questions.**

**8 Marks**

- (a) What are the two sources which newspapers depend on for their news items?
- (b) How do newspapers get the news reports which are published under the heading 'from our own correspondent'?
- (c) What do news agencies do?
- (d) What does a 'carrier pigeon' carry?

**II. Complete the following sentences.**

**2 Marks**

- (a) Reuter did more to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) When Barbarians approached, Romans sent signals by \_\_\_\_\_.

**III. Give words that mean the same as:**

**2 Marks**

- (a) only to be used by one particular person or group. (Para 1)
- (b) to a very high degree. (Para 4)

**SECTION B: WRITING AND GRAMMAR**

**30 Marks**

3. Write a letter in 100 – 120 words to the **Editor of Focus India, Chennai**, making a plea to common people to switch over to solar energy to conserve electricity and limit electricity bills.

**8 Marks**

4. Write a story in 200-250 words based on the input given below.

**10 Marks**

The stadium looked festive – match going on – all excited – suddenly .....

**OR**

An injured horse was lying on the road in a pool of blood. People surrounded it and one out of the crowd .....

**5. Complete the following passage by choosing the most appropriate options from the ones given below. 4 Marks**

The list of creatures (a) \_\_\_\_\_ have vanished altogether, and others that have almost vanished, is a long and melancholy one. As man spread (b) \_\_\_\_\_ the earth, he has wrought the (c) \_\_\_\_\_ terrible havoc among the wildlife by shooting, trapping, cutting and burning (d) \_\_\_\_\_ forest.

- |                |           |             |           |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| (a) (i) which  | (ii) that | (iii) where | (iv) who  |
| (b) (i) across | (ii) at   | (iii) of    | (iv) in   |
| (c) (i) more   | (ii) many | (iii) most  | (iv) much |
| (d) (i) for    | (ii) an   | (iii) or    | (iv) the  |

**6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the error and its correction as shown in the example. 4 Marks**

	<b>Error</b>	<b>Correction</b>
One day a wonderful plate full in gold	e.g. in	of
fell from Heaven into a courtyard of	(a) .....	.....
a temple at Benaras; so on the plate	(b) .....	.....
these words were inscribe, "A gift	(c) .....	.....
from Heaven to he who	(d) .....	.....
loves better". The priests at once	(e) .....	.....
made a announcement that every day	(f) .....	.....
at noon, all which would like	(g) .....	.....
to claimed the plate should come.	(h) .....	.....

**7. Rearrange the words and phrases given below into meaningful sentences. 4 Marks**

- (a) a real princess / a prince / marry, / wanted to / but only / once
- (b) to find / it was / princess / very difficult / a real
- (c) all over / of one / he / in search / travelled / the world
- (d) but no / real / many / one seemed / he saw / to be

**SECTION C:**  
**LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND EXTENDED READING TEXT**  
**30 Marks**

**8. Read the extract and answer the following questions briefly.**

**4 Marks**

A) *I thought I would fetch this down as well. (She puts it on the mantelpiece.)*

- a) Who speaks this?
- b) What has the speaker brought down?
- c) From where has the speaker brought it down?
- d) Why does the speaker bring it down?

**OR**

B) *Not marble, nor the gilded monuments*

*Of princes, shall outlive this powerful rhyme;*

- a) What does the poet mean by marble?
- b) Whose gilded monuments are made?
- c) What will happen to 'marble' and 'gilded monuments'?
- d) What does the poet convey through his sonnet?

**9. Answer any four of the following questions in 30-40 words.**

**8 Marks**

- a) What are the three things that grandfather plan to do on next Monday?
- b) Although Nicola and Jacopo are young boys, the author refers to them as gentlemen. Why does he do so?
- c) What happens to the nightingale at the end of the poem and how?
- d) How does the mirror spend its time? What disturbs its contemplation?
- e) Why does Mrs. Packletide want to shoot a tiger?

**10. Answer any one of the following questions in 100-120 words.**

**8 Marks**

A) Our self-image is based on what others make us believe we are. With reference to the poem *The Frog and the Nightingale*, write an article on 'Poor self-image can be self-destructive'.

**OR**

B) Both the boys at Verona were full of grit, determination and hope. At a young age they exhibited qualities that are difficult to come even in adults. This story teaches us not to lose hope and courage even in adverse situations. Elaborate.

11. Answer the following question in 200 - 250 words.

10 Marks

A) How do you think Anne is different from other members in the Annexe?

**OR**

B) Describe the role of Kitty in the life of Anne Frank in the period of hiding in a secret Annexe.

**OR**

C) Write a brief account of Helen's family.

**OR**

D) '*The arrival of Miss Sullivan filled Helen's life with confidence and joy.*' Comment on this statement.

