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SAMPLE
TEST PAPER
XII ENGLISH

i30 Learning
Centre

IIT-JEE • NEET • OLYMPIADS

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1. Read the following passage carefully:**12**

1. In a quiet village in the heart of India, there stood an old house with walls made of mud and a roof of red clay tiles. The house had seen many seasons come and go, but it remained strong, standing tall under the shade of a giant peepal tree. Every morning, as the first rays of the sun touched the village, the house glowed softly in the golden light. The fragrance of jasmine flowers filled the air, carried by the gentle breeze from the garden where they bloomed next to marigolds and hibiscus.

2. The house belonged to the Verma family, who had lived there for generations. Grandfather Verma, now old and wise, often sat in the front courtyard under the shade of the peepal tree, telling stories to the village children. The stories were about brave kings, ancient battles, and forgotten legends of the land. His voice was slow and steady, and the children sat in a circle around him, listening with wide eyes. Even the adults would sometimes pause in their daily work to hear a story they had known since their childhood, yet never tired of.

3. The courtyard was always alive with activity. In the mornings, birds chirped from the tree branches, and the soft mooing of cows could be heard from the nearby fields. Grandmother Verma would be busy in the kitchen, preparing food for the family — chapatis on the clay stove, dal bubbling in a brass pot, and vegetables freshly plucked from the garden. The smell of spices, ginger, and coriander filled the air, and it seemed to mix with the earthiness of the mud walls.

4. As the sun began to set, casting a warm orange glow over the village, the quietness settled in. The sky turned from blue to pink, and the only sounds were the distant laughter of children and the low hum of crickets. The Verma house, with its familiar rhythms of life, stood quietly, a symbol of simplicity, tradition, and the passage of time.

5. For the villagers, the house was more than just a structure—it was a reminder of their roots. It was a place where stories were passed down, where life slowed down, and where the traditions of their ancestors lived on. Even as the world outside changed, the Verma house remained, standing strong in the heart of the village, untouched by time.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, what natural feature provides shade to the old Verma house? 1
- ii. How does the author describe the role of Grandfather Verma in the village, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase “a symbol of simplicity, tradition, and the passage of time” in paragraph 4 suggests that the Verma house is more than just a building; it represents the village’s connection to its past and a simple way of life.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
The Verma house symbolizes _____.
(A) the traditions and history of the village
(B) the changing times and modern life
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3: 1
The Verma family kitchen was filled with the aroma of _____.
- v. Why does the writer describe the courtyard as “alive with activity” in paragraph 3? 1
Because
(A) The village children gather to listen to stories.
(B) Birds, cows, and the preparation of food make the courtyard lively.
(C) It is where the family gathers for important discussions.
(D) It represents the heart of the village’s social life.

vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following: 1

The Verma house stands as a reminder of the village's traditions.

vii. In the line, 'the quietness settled in...' (Paragraph 4), what does the phrase 'quietness settled in' suggest about the mood as the evening approaches? 2

viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 3: 1

chapatis: stove :: dal: _____

(A) brass pot

(B) garden

(C) mud walls

(D) courtyard

ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement 'the Verma house was more than just a structure' in paragraph 5 uses figurative language? 1

(A) It emphasizes the symbolic importance of the house.

(B) It compares the house to a living entity.

(C) It reflects the emotional connection of the villagers to the house.

(D) It personifies the house as something alive and active.

x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of maintaining the old Verma house, as suggested in paragraph 5. 2

2. Read the following carefully.

10

1. Introduction:

Climate change has significantly impacted global weather patterns, resulting in more frequent and severe natural disasters. This case study explores the frequency of various natural disasters over the last two decades and examines their geographical distribution. The study aims to understand how regions are affected differently and what measures can be taken to mitigate the impacts of such disasters.

2. Methodology:

Data was collected from multiple international agencies, tracking the occurrence of natural disasters such as floods, cyclones, droughts, and earthquakes. The data was analysed to observe trends in disaster frequency and geographical distribution over the years. A detailed comparison of regions most affected by each type of disaster was conducted, leading to actionable insights for disaster preparedness.

3. Survey Examination:

The data from the survey focused on natural disasters that have occurred globally between 2000 and 2020. The disasters were classified by type, and their frequency in various regions was compared. The study aimed to identify which regions are more vulnerable to specific disasters and why. Factors like climate, geography, and human activities were examined to understand their roles in increasing disaster risk.

4. Results:

The chart below illustrates the frequency of major natural disasters in different regions of the world over the last 20 years.

Region	Floods (%)	Cyclones (%)	Droughts (%)	Earthquakes (%)
North America	30%	15%	10%	45%
South America	40%	5%	35%	20%
Africa	25%	10%	60%	5%
Asia	35%	40%	15%	10%
Europe	50%	5%	5%	40%

5. Implications for Interventions:

Understanding regional vulnerability to different natural disasters is critical for devising effective disaster management strategies. Regions like Africa, where droughts dominate, need to focus on water conservation and sustainable agriculture. In

contrast, Asia, which is prone to cyclones, should invest in early warning systems and coastal defenses. International collaboration is essential to build resilience and reduce the loss of life and property from future disasters.

6. Conclusion:

This study highlights the need for targeted interventions based on the types of natural disasters each region faces. By addressing specific vulnerabilities, regions can improve their disaster preparedness and reduce the impact of future catastrophic events.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

i. Complete the following suitably. 1

In the introduction, the researcher links climate change with natural disasters to highlight _____.

ii. What would the following be classified as? 1

To examine the frequency and geographical distribution of natural disasters.

Select the appropriate response.

- (A) Research outcome
- (B) Primary objective
- (C) Secondary objective
- (D) Method of analysis

iii. Give two points to support why geographical distribution was included as a focus in the study on natural disasters. 2

iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘climate’ and ‘geography.’ 1

Classify the following sentences as ‘climate’ or ‘geography’:

Sentence 1: The high frequency of droughts in Africa is due to prolonged dry seasons.

Sentence 2: The occurrence of earthquakes in North America is due to tectonic plate movement.

v. Read the following: 1

Sarah lives in North America, where earthquakes are frequent, while her friend Carlos lives in South America, which is more prone to floods. Meanwhile, Fatima in Africa struggles with droughts that affect her community’s livelihood.

Select the option that identifies the correct disaster vulnerability for Sarah, Carlos, and Fatima.

- (A) Sarah – cyclones; Carlos – droughts; Fatima – floods
- (B) Sarah – floods; Carlos – cyclones; Fatima – earthquakes
- (C) Sarah – earthquakes; Carlos – floods; Fatima – droughts
- (D) Sarah – droughts; Carlos – earthquakes; Fatima – cyclones

vi. Although Asia and Europe experience different natural disasters, why does Europe have a higher percentage of floods? 1

vii. Analyse how targeted disaster preparedness interventions can reduce the impact of natural disasters in regions like Africa and Asia. (Paragraph 5) 2

viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1

- (A) To predict future natural disasters with certainty
- (B) To build international cooperation for disaster relief
- (C) To reduce the loss of life and property from natural disasters
- (D) To focus on preventing only specific types of disasters

SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

18

3. Attempt ANY one of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words.

4

A. You are Keertan/Keerthi, the Principal of Shishya Public School, Madhur Nagar. Draft a notice informing students of class XI and XII about a five day, Students’ Educational trip to Singapore scheduled in January 2026. Invent other details.

Or

B. You are the President of Mahaveer Residents’ Welfare Association, Mahaveer Nagar, you have decided to put a notice in the office board informing all the residents of the

temporary closure of children's play area for a period of seven days citing a valid reason. Draft the notice as Mahima/Mohit Khandelwal.

4. Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (b), in about 50 words. 4

(a) Aryabhat Public School, Ujjain is celebrating its golden jubilee Annual Sports Day. Draft a suitable invitation on behalf of the Principal of the school. The chief guest of the function is the Hon'ble Minister of Education of India, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan. Invent other details. Write the invite in a box.

Or

(b) You are Kamal/Kamala of 3, Post office Street, Chennai. You received an invite from Suhasini, your friend to celebrate her 17th Birthday. Write a suitable response declining the invite. Write the response to the invite in a box.

5. Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (b), in about 120 -150 words. 5

(a) Write a letter to the Editor of a leading national daily highlighting the problems of adulterated sweets that are sold during festivals and on other important occasions by the greedy manufacturers. They adulterate the edibles with poor quality substances to enhance the shelf life, increase their profit margins, and sell sub-standard material in the open market. They add chemicals that can be cancerous. Suggest at least one solution to this problem. You are Meet/Meenakshi of 31, Malviya Nagar, Lucknow.

Or

(b) You are Abhishek/Ambica of J-113, Phase III, Sarathi Road, Shubh Nagar. You came across the following advertisement for the job of a PGT English Teacher in Shubh Public School, Shubh Nagar.

Write your application along with your bio-data.

Situation Wanted

Required, qualified, experienced, M/F, dynamic, PGT English Teacher – must be fluent in English, good pay package – must have taught XII board students – soft skills and computer literacy must – Contact, HRM (Human Resource Manager), Shubh Public School, Shubh Nagar with full bio-data within 15 days of the publication of this advertisement.

6. Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (b), in about 120 to 150 words. 5

(a) Artificial Intelligence is the future of the 21st century. This will help mankind unravel the mysteries of life, making man more powerful. All the same, Artificial Intelligence has a few drawbacks too. Write an article for your school magazine. You may use the following cues along with your own ideas. You are Portia/Antonio of Akash Public School, Akash Nagar.

AI can do the work more efficiently, faster and economically. Used in a wide spectrum – medical science – transportation – weather forecasting etc. AI – can take over all human activities – making them vulnerable – dictated by the robot – humans will become robots.

Or

(b) You are Aiswarya/Alok, a student of class XII, of St. Peter's Public School, Prabhat Nagar. You witnessed the 50th Annual Day of Your School. Write a detailed report to be published in your school magazine. You may organize your report by using the following cues:

what – when – where – why – how. Also add about the Chief Guest of the function. Cultural programs presented by students.

SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

7. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given 6

A. It would be an exotic moment
without rush, without engines,
we would all be together
in a sudden strangeness.
Fishermen in the cold sea

would not harm whales
and the man gathering salt
would look at his hurt hands.

- (i) What is the poetic device used in 'Cold sea'?
- (a) Personification (b) Transferred Epithet
(c) Metaphor (d) Alliteration
- (ii) "It would be an exotic moment without rush, without engines"
In the above line from the poem 'Keeping Quiet', why is the moment of silence called exotic?
- (a) Because it is unfamiliar to most of us.
(b) Because it contains perfect peace and harmony.
(c) Because it is a step towards understanding ourselves.
(d) Because we would finally start realising the solutions to our problems.
- (iii) 'Keeping Quiet' uses fishermen to symbolize man's _____.
- (a) rapid degradation of human values
(b) persistent pollution of the natural environment
(c) constant participation in acts of terror
(d) limitless exploitation of natural resources
- (iv) While gathering salt, what will happen to the man if he keeps silent for a moment?
- (a) He will stop collecting it.
(b) He will enjoy Nature and the things around him.
(c) He will think of the harm the salt is doing to his hands.
(d) He will spend time with his family members.
- (v) **Assertion:** All marine animals will be saved, thereby helping maintaining an ecological balance.
Reason: Fishermen will stop their merciless act of fishing.
- (a) Both assertion and reason are correct and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.
(b) Both assertion and reason are correct but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.
(c) Assertion is true and reason is false.
(d) Assertion is false and reason is true.
- (vi) Explain: 'sudden strangeness'.

Or

- B.** and felt that old familiar ache,
my childhood's fear, but all I said was,
see you soon, Amma,
all I did was smile and smile and smile...
- (i) Which of these best describes the poet's 'childhood's fear'?
- (a) Our parents will leave us some day.
(b) Old age will give us wrinkles and pale skin.
(c) Our parents will disown us for shameful acts.
(d) We will have to leave our parents' house someday.
- (ii) The above extract shows a contrast between which two aspects?
- (a) how the poet feels and what the poet says
(b) how old the poet is and how old her mother is
(c) how the poet's mother looks and how the moon looks
(d) how the poet sees things and how the poet's mother sees them
- (iii) "All I did was smile and smile and smile...." The repetition of the word "smile" indicates:
- (a) The speaker was trying hard to conceal her pain and emotions.

- (b) The speaker was unhappy to leave her mother.
 (c) The speaker was happy to go back to Cochin.
 (d) The speaker has used it to include literary device in the poem.
- (iv) The poet confides her and about her _____ through the poem.
 (i) Woes (ii) Feelings (iii) Fears
 (iv) Dissatisfactions (v) Hopes (vi) Ambitions
- Options:
 (a) (i) and (iv) (b) (ii) and (iii)
 (c) (iii) and (v) (d) (v) and (vi)
- (v) **Assertion (A):** The poet could say was only, 'see you soon Amma'
Reason (R): The poet could only smile and smile at her mother.
 (a) Both A and R are true and R is correct explanation of A
 (b) Both A and R are true and R is not correct explanation of A
 (c) A is true but R is false
 (d) A is false but R is true
- (vi) On what note does the poem end?

8. Attempt ANY ONE of the two extracts given.

4

A. "If we sheltered a white man in our house, we should be arrested and executed, Sadao," Hana said anxiously. "You know very well we would." "I do not think so," Sadao said. "The servants might tell, but I think I can manage them. We have to think of what is best to do. If we turn him over to the police we are responsible for having sheltered him thus long. If we put him back on the beach where we found him, he will die. If we keep him and he gets well, we must guard our secret for the rest of our lives."

- (i) What is Hana's primary concern about sheltering the wounded man?
 (a) The man might attack them
 (b) They could be arrested and executed
 (c) Their reputation would be ruined
 (d) The man might never recover
- (ii) Which option does Sadao NOT consider for dealing with the wounded man?
 (a) Turning him over to the police
 (b) Returning him to the beach
 (c) Keeping him until he recovers
 (d) Sending him to a different doctor
- (iii) What does Sadao imply about the servants in this extract?
 (a) They are completely trustworthy
 (b) They might betray the secret
 (c) They are indifferent to the situation
 (d) They will help hide the wounded man
- (iv) Complete the sentence:
 Sadao's careful consideration of various options demonstrates his _____.

Or

B. When I was studying in the third class, I hadn't yet heard people speak openly of untouchability. But I had already seen, felt, experienced and been humiliated by what it is. I was walking home from school one day, an old bag hanging from my shoulder. It was actually possible to walk the distance in ten minutes. But usually it would take me thirty minutes at the very least to reach home. It would take me from half an hour to an hour to dawdle along, watching all the fun and games that were going on, all the entertaining novelties and oddities in the streets, the shops and the bazaar.

- (i) What does the narrator imply about untouchability in the first sentence?
 (a) It was openly discussed
 (b) It was a new concept

- (c) It was experienced before being named
- (d) It didn't exist in their community
- (ii) The narrator's journey home usually took longer because:
 - (a) The route was very long
 - (b) They were easily distracted by surroundings
 - (c) They had to run errands
 - (d) They walked slowly due to the heavy bag
- (iii) The word "dawdle" in the context suggests that the narrator:
 - (a) Rushed home quickly
 - (b) Took their time observing their surroundings
 - (c) Was often late for school
 - (d) Disliked going home
- (iv) Complete the sentence:
Despite not hearing the term "untouchability", the narrator had already _____personal experiences.

9. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (A) or (B). 6

A. Their spontaneous demonstration, in thousands, around the courthouse was the beginning of their liberation from fear of the British. The official felt powerless without Gandhi's cooperation. He helped them regulate the crowd. He was polite and friendly. He was giving them concrete proof that their might, hitherto dreaded and unquestioned, could be challenged by Indians. The government was baffled. The prosecutor requested the judge to postpone the trial. Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors. (Indigo)

- (i) The result of the demonstration was that _____.
- (ii) The participants of the spontaneous demonstration were:
 - (A) Gandhi's lawyers. (B) people of Champaran.
 - (C) Indigo landowners. (D) Indian soldiers.
- (iii) Gandhi cooperated with the British by:
 - (A) not going to the court.
 - (B) remaining quiet when he was accused.
 - (C) helping to manage the mob of people.
 - (D) leaving Champaran for Delhi.
- (iv) The statement 'Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors' was indicative of the Britisher's _____.
- (v) With reference to the extract, the word 'baffled' most nearly means:
 - (A) strengthened.
 - (B) disgusted.
 - (C) frightened.
 - (D) confused.
- (vi) Whose 'might' did this demonstration question?

Or

B. "The rattrap is a Christmas present from a rat who would have been caught in this world's rattrap if he had not been raised to captain, because in that way he got power to clear himself. "Written with friendship and high regard, "Captain von Stahle." (The Rattrap)

- I. How does the peddler's signature as "Captain Von Stahle" reflect his transformation?
- II. Select the correct option from those given in brackets to fill in the blank.
The peddler's gift of the rattrap symbolizes his _____ (gratitude/cynicism) towards life.
- III. Complete the following suitably.
The phrase "raised to captain" refers to the way Edla's kindness _____.
- IV. What does the peddler mean by saying he "got power to clear himself"?
- V. The peddler's use of the word "rat" to describe himself suggests:

- A. Self-deprecation
 - B. Continued identification with vermin
 - C. A playful reference to his past
 - D. Anger at society
- VI. The overall tone of the letter can be described as:
- A. Bitter and resentful
 - B. Grateful and transformed
 - C. Confused and uncertain
 - D. Formal and distant

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each: 10

- i. What did M. Hamel say about the importance of language to the 'enslaved' people? (*The Last Lesson*)
- ii. Why do we weave a wreath or a flowery band that binds us to this world? (*A Thing of Beauty*)
- iii. How did the peddler show his gratitude to Edla? (*The Rattrap*)
- iv. What kind of life do the rural people dream of? Why can't they get to live it? (*The Roadside Stand*)
- v. How does the author's portrayal of the make-up department reflect the diversity of India? (*Poets and Pancakes*)
- vi. 'Resignation was no sudden thing'. What is the implication of this remark in the context Sophie's character? (*Going Places*)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each: 4

- i. Analyse the importance of the third level as a metaphor in the story. (*The Third Level*)
- ii. What are the significant features of 'Students on Ice Program'? (*Journey to the End of the Earth*)
- iii. What peculiar things does Derry notice about the old man, Mr. Lamb? (*On The Face of It*)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. 5

A. 'Lost spring' and 'Indigo' highlight the apathy of society and exploitation by those in power. Elaborate.

Or

B. 'Mother continually warned against it, and kept fresh in my mind the details of each drowning in the river.'

In Prose section, 'Deep Water' includes this comment on William Douglas.

In 'My Mother at Sixty Six', we are told that -

'But after the airport's security check, standing a few yards away, I looked again at her, wan, pale as a late winter's moon'

Imagine a conversation between Kamla Das and William Douglas as friends. Create this exchange with reference to the extracts given above.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. 5

A. In the story 'The Third Level', reality and fantasy are interwoven. Justify.

Or

B. Imagine you are Derry speaking at the funeral of Mr. Lamb highlighting Mr. Lamb's optimism and the change he brought about in your attitude towards. (On the Face of it)

You may begin like this.

Dear friends,

I will be eternally grateful to Mr. Lamb.....