

Maharashtra HSC BOARD QUESTION PAPER 2023

English

Time: 3 Hrs.

Max. Marks: 80

Important instructions:

- (1) Each activity has to be answered in complete sentence/s. One word answers will not be given complete credit. Just the correct activity number written in case of options will not be given credit.
- (2) Web diagrams, flow charts, tables etc. are to be presented exactly as they are with answers.
- (3) In point 2 above, just words without the presentation of the activity format/design, will not be given credit. Use of colour pencils/pens etc. is not allowed. (Only blue/black pens are allowed.)
- (4) Multiple answers to the same activity will be treated as wrong and will not be given any credit.
- (5) Maintain the sequence of the Sections/ Question Nos./Activities throughout the activity sheet.

SECTION – I: PROSE

(Reading for Comprehension, Language Study, Summary and Mind Mapping)

Q.1. (A) Read the extract and complete the activities given below: (12) [16]

I was quite happy getting into IIT, but my joy was short-lived. At Solapur, I had not seen any building which was more than three storeyed. Mumbai however was full of skyscrapers. At IIT, most of the students and professors used to converse in English whereas my English was very poor. I had my entire education in Marathi. My spoken English was quite pathetic. Not only did I have a very weak vocabulary, but, my pronunciation also was terrible and my construction of English sentences very awkward to say the least. Due to all this, I was feeling quite lonely and terrified in Mumbai in general and IIT in particular. I had developed an inferiority complex and wanted to run away from IIT and even Mumbai.

One day, I was sitting at my mess table in the hostel sipping tea when a senior guy came and sat on the chair adjacent to me. He was a convent educated guy with fairly sophisticated English – at least spoken or colloquial English. He was a bit arrogant and wanted to pull my leg. He tried to engage in some conversation with me and started pointing out errors in just about every sentence or everything that I said. After about 5 minutes he walked away after insulting me.

I felt extremely humiliated and upset. As it is, I was feeling quite depressed and diffident and this incident was the last straw. I was almost broken. I felt out of place there and literally wanted to run away to Solapur that very moment. However, it was only my self-esteem which stopped me. Suddenly, a feeling of determination and strength came over me and gripped me.

A1. Choose and rewrite the two correct statements from the following: (2)

- (a) The writer had his entire education in English.
- (b) The writer wished to run away from IIT and even Mumbai.
- (c) The senior guy was co-operative and he encouraged the writer.
- (d) The writer could overcome his feeling of depression with his own efforts.

A2. The writer developed an inferiority complex during his stay in Mumbai. Enlist the causes: (2)

- (a) _____ (b) _____
- (c) _____ (d) _____

A3. Point out the qualities of the writer that you have come across while reading the extract. (2)

- Negative qualities: (i) _____
(ii) _____
Positive qualities: (i) _____
(ii) _____

A4. Give any four suggestions to improve English communication skills. (2)

A5. Language study: (2)

- (i) 'I was quite happy getting into IIT, but my joy was short-lived'
(Choose the correct alternative showing proper use of 'though')
- (a) Though I was quite happy getting into IIT, but my joy was short-lived.
- (b) I was quite happy getting into IIT, though my joy is short-lived.
- (c) Though I was quite happy getting into IIT, my joy was short-lived.
- (d) I was quite happy though getting into IIT, my joy was short-lived.

- (ii) 'I felt extremely humiliated and upset.'
(Identify the correct exclamatory form of the above sentence.)
- (a) What humiliated and upset I felt! (b) How humiliated and upset I felt!
(c) How extremely humiliated do I feel! (d) What a humiliated and upset I felt!

A6. Match the following words in column 'A' with their antonyms in column 'B'. (2)

Column 'A'		Column 'B'	
(a)	diffident	(i)	humble
(b)	humiliated	(ii)	superiority
(c)	arrogant	(iii)	confident
(d)	inferiority	(iv)	exhilarated

B1. Non-Textual Grammar (3)

Do as directed:

- (i) Both the partners have signed this agreement in haste. (1)

(Identify the correct 'Passive Voice' form of the above sentence from the alternatives given below)

- (a) This agreement had been signed in haste by both the partners.
(b) This agreement has been signed in haste by both the partners.
(c) This agreement have been signed in haste by both the partners.
(d) This agreement was signed in haste by both the partners.

- (ii) I asked my sister, "What can I do for you in this matter?" (1)

(Identify the correct 'Indirect Speech' form of the above sentence from the alternatives given below)

- (a) I asked my sister what I could do for her in that matter.
(b) He asked his sister what he could do for her in that matter.
(c) I asked my sister what he could do for her in this matter.
(d) He asked my sister what she could do for her in that matter.

- (iii) As soon as he left the house, he met with an accident. (1)

(Identify the correct 'No sooner than' form of the above sentence from the alternatives given below.)

- (a) No sooner does he leave the house than he met with an accident.
(b) No sooner had he left the house than he met with an accident.
(c) No sooner did he leave the house than he met with an accident.
(d) No sooner do he leave the house than he met with an accident.

B2. Spot the error in the given sentence and rewrite the correct sentence. (1)

She has been worked in this office since 1996.

Q.2. (A) Read the following extract and complete the activities given below: (12) [18]

The government of India is encouraging medical tourism in the country by offering tax benefits and export incentives to the participating hospitals. Medical visas are being cleared quickly without any hassles. With a view to facilitating the growth of medical tourism industry, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare along with the Ministry of Tourism has set up a task force to evaluate the opportunities in the industry. Efforts are being made to standardise procedures and to guide foreign patients to select the hospitals most suited to their needs. Meanwhile, several private hospitals are seeking to take advantage of the booming medical tourism industry and are investing hugely in acquiring equipments and skills.

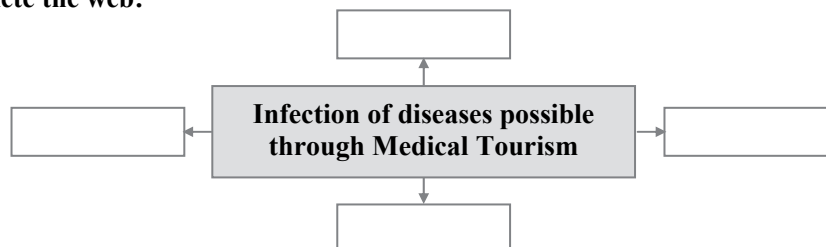
However, medical tourism carries some risks that locally provided medical care does not. Some countries like India, Malaysia and Thailand have very different infectious diseases rarely found in Europe and North America. Exposure to disease without having built-up natural immunity can be a hazard for weak individuals specially with respect to gastrointestinal diseases like Hepatitis A, amoebic dysentery etc., which could slow down the recovery process. Also, medical tourists may be at risk from mosquito-transmitted diseases, influenza and tuberculosis. The quality of post-operative care can also vary dramatically depending on the hospital and the country. Finally, after returning home, a patient has a limited contact with their surgeon. This may make it difficult to deal with any complications that may arise later, such as a delayed infection.

The concept of medical tourism raises some important questions regarding accessibility, affordability and ethics in medical care. It is unfortunate that a large section of the Indian population has little or no access to private health care. Public health care system is

inadequate and lacks proper infrastructure and facilities. One wonders if it is sensible to make provisions for medical tourism in a democratic country like India, which has failed to provide nourishment, sanitation and health care to its masses.

A1. Complete the web:

(2)



A2. Complete the following statements with the help of information provided in the extract:

(2)

- (i) Building up natural immunity is must for all because _____
 (ii) The concept of medical tourism can not be much successful in India because _____

A3. Complete the following table with reference to the statement 'Medical Tourism is a mixed blessing':

(2)

Positive aspects of Medical Tourism		Hazard/Negative aspects of Medical Tourism	
1		1	
2		2	

A4. 'We need to promote the concept of Wildlife Tourism in India'. State whether you agree or disagree with the statement. Mention any two arguments.

(2)

A5. Language study:

(2)

- (i) 'Govt. of India is encouraging medical tourism in the country'.
 (Choose the correct present perfect form of the given statement.)
 (a) Govt. of India is encouraged medical tourism in the country.
 (b) Govt. of India had encouraged medical tourism in the country.
 (c) Govt. of India has been encouraged medial tourism in the country.
 (d) Govt. of India has encouraged medical tourism in the country.
 (ii) 'This may make it difficult to deal with any complication'.
 (Identify the replaced version of the statement using the auxiliary of certainty or definiteness.)
 (a) This can make it difficult to deal with any complication.
 (b) This might make it difficult to deal with any complication.
 (c) This will make it difficult to deal with any complication.
 (d) This have made it difficult to deal with any complication.

A6. Identify the words from the passage with the following meaning:

(2)

- (i) growing immensely (ii) threat
 (iii) obtaining (iv) able to approach/possible to approach

(B) Summary Writing:

(3)

Write a summary of the above extract with a suitable title, with the help of the given points/hints.

- Govt. of India promoting medical tourism...
- Side effects of the medical tourism – Response of the Indian population – Prospects of medical tourism in India.

(C) Mind Mapping:

(3)

Prepare a mind map on the topic 'Human Interest' using your ideas, flow, design and structure.

SECTION – II: POETRY (Poetry and Appreciation)

Q.3. (A) Read the following extract and complete the activities given below:

(10) [14]

'Canst hear', said one, 'the breakers roar?
 For methinks we should be near the shore'.
 'Now where we are I cannot tell,
 But I wish I could hear the Inchcape Bell'.

They hear no sound, the swell is strong;
Thought the wind hath fallen they drift along,
Till the vessel strikes with a shivering shock,
‘O Christ! it is the Inchcape Rock!’

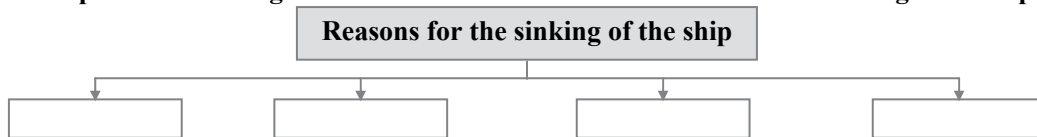
Sir Ralph the rover tore his hair;
He curst himself in his despair;
The waves rush in every side,
The ship is sinking beneath the tide.

But even in his dying fear
One dreadful sound could the Rover hear,
A sound as if with the Inchcape Bell,
The Devil below was ringing his knell.

A1. Rearrange the following incidents as per their occurrence in the poem: (2)

- Sir Ralph the Rover cursed himself in despair.
- The vessel strikes with a shivering shock.
- The mariner wished to hear the Inchcape Bell.
- Ralph the Rover heard one dreadful sound.

A2. Complete the tree diagram to describe the reasons that resulted in the sinking of the ship. (2)



A3. Accept any reasonably correct answer: (2)

A4. Poetic device: (2)

The figure of speech – ‘Inversion’ the word order is changed for rhyme. Correct order should be:
‘The Rover could hear one dreadful sound.’

A5. Composing lines: (2)

[Accept any reasonably correct answer/lines]

(B) Appreciation: (4)

Write the poetic appreciation of the extract given below:

She walks in beauty, like the night
Of cloudless climes and starry skies;
And all that's best of dark and bright
Meet in her aspect and her eyes;
Thus mellowed to that tender light
Which heaven to gaudy day denies.

One shade the more, one ray the less,
Had half impaired the nameless grace
Which waves in every raven tress,
Or softly lightens o'er her face;
Where thoughts serenely sweet express,
How pure, how dear their dwelling-place.

And on that cheek, and o'er that brow,
So soft, so calm, yet eloquent,
The smiles that win, the tints that glow,
But tell of days in goodness spent,
A mind at peace with all below,
A heart whose love is innocent!

SECTION – III (Writing Skill)

Q.4. (A) Complete the activities as per the instructions given below: (4) [16]

Attempt Any One of the following activities –

(1) Drafting virtual message:

Imagine yourself as Ramesh. You are required to go to Pune to participate in the national level Chess Competition and hence you won't be able to attend the class-test. Draft a virtual message for your friend Sanket in about 50 to 75 words asking him to convey the reason of your absence to your subject teacher.

OR

(2) **Statement of Purpose:**

You have a special interest in journalism. You are planning to go for a degree-course in mass-communication and work in future especially in the field of crime-reporting. You have heard about the reputed 'Royal Institute of Mass-communication' in the United Kingdom.

Prepare a statement of purpose in about 150 words to get admission in the Institute.

OR

(3) **Group Discussion:**

Imagine yourself as a participant in a group discussion arranged by an NGO working to promote swadeshi. The topic is 'Traditional food provide more nutrition to the children as compared to the junk food'.

There are two more participants and evaluator to share their views. Prepare a set of dialogues.

(B) **Attempt 'Any One' of the following activities:** (4)

(1) **E-mail writing:**

You are looking forward to start a Computer Institute in your area. You initially need 20 PCs. Prepare / Draft an E-mail to the city-dealer of DELL Computers demanding a moderate quotation for the same. (in about 100-150 words).

OR

(2) **Report writing:**

Your college has celebrated '75th Anniversary of our National Independence' by organising various socio-cultural activities between 13th and 16th August. Imagine yourself as G.S. (General Secretary) of your jr. college and draft a brief report of the celebration/programme for the local newspapers in about 150 words.

OR

(3) **Drafting Interview Questions:**

One of the Ex-students from your college has recently been selected for the prestigious NDA (National Defence Academy). He is specially invited to motivate the aspiring students of your jr. college. Imagine yourself as an interviewer and prepare a set of 8 (eight) interview questions enabling your guest to share his experiences and opinions.

You may take help of the following points to draft your questions maintaining a proper sequence:

Name of the Interviewee (Personality)	
Area of Success/Reputation	
Date / Venue / Time	
Duration of Interview	
His decision	
His Idols / inspirations	
Support	
Training	
Difficulties	
Challenges / Motivating experiences	
Goals / Expectations	
Message	

(C) **Attempt 'Any One' of the following activities:** (4)

(1) **Speech Writing:**

You are an active member of an NGO working for water-conservation. Prepare a speech for the school children / students where you are invited on the eve of 'World Environment Day' to guide them about water-harvesting. Your speech should not exceed 150 words.

OR

(2) **Compering:**

Imagine your school / jr. college has organised a farewell function for the students appearing for H.S.C. examination. As a compere draft a script for the whole function maintaining the sequence of the following points:

- Welcoming the guests
- Introduction
- Felicitation
- Important speeches
- Concluding remark
- Vote of thanks

OR

(3) Expansion of Idea:

Expand the following idea with the help of the points given below (100 –150 words) –
“Experience is the best teacher”

- It’s practical and not theoretical experience
- Direct and first hand knowledge
- Learn from situations
- Real life versus Bookish

(D) Attempt ‘Any One’ of the following activities:

(4)

(1) Drafting a Review:

Draft a review of any film/movie that you have recently watched. Prepare your review with the help of given points.

- Name of the movie / year of release
- Cast
- Theme / storyline in brief
- Producer / Director
- Technical aspects: Music / photography
- Your opinion

OR

(2) Blog writing:

Write / Prepare a blog in about 150 words on the topic ‘Social media is spoiling the spirit of Education.’ Focus on the adverse/negative effects / influence of social media apps on the students’ minds.

OR

(3) Prepare an Appeal:

Prepare an appeal inviting the students to respond to the “Voters’ Registration Camp” specially organised by the State Election Commission on the eve of 75th Anniversary of our National Independence.

- Give appropriate slogan
- Statement of appeal
- Guest/Time/Date/Venue
- Poor turn-out/low awareness
- Arrangement of a special camp

SECTION- IV
(Literary Genre-Novel)

Q.5. (A) Complete the activities given below as per the instructions:

(4) [16]

(i) Match the following items from column-A with those from the column-B:

	Column ‘A’		Column ‘B’
(a)	Oroonoku	(i)	Joseph Conard
(b)	The Heart of Darkness	(ii)	John Bunyan
(c)	Frankenstein	(iii)	Aphra Behn
(d)	The Pilgrim’s Progress	(iv)	Mary Shelly

(ii) Choose the correct alternatives and complete the given statements:

- (a) Novels with the elements of horror, blood-shed and mystery are called _____ novels. (Realistic, Gothic, Psychological)
- (b) The German word ‘bildungsroman’ indicates _____. (Letter, New, Growth)
- (c) There are _____ essential elements of ‘Novel’ or ‘Novella’. (six, eight, eleven)
- (d) Struggle between the opposite forces in the story is called _____. (plot, conflict, setting)

(B) Activities based on the extract of the novel ‘To Sir, With Love’ (answer in about 50 words)”

(4)

- (i) Give the character-sketch of E.R. Braithwaite (the narrator).
- (ii) Describe how Miss Philips justifies the importance of P.T. to Denham

(2)

(2)

(C) Activities based on the extract of the novel ‘Around the World in Eighty Days’ (Answer in about 50 words)

(4)

- (i) Elaborate the following quote in the light of Phileas Fogg’s Venture....
‘Quitters never win and Winners never quit.’
- (ii) Phileas Fogg knocked detective fix down – Give reason/s.

(2)

(2)

(D) Activities based on the extract of the novel ‘The Sign of Four’ (Answer in about 50 words) :

(4)

- (i) Describe the significance of Mary Morstan’s visit to the Lyceum Theatre with Holmes and Dr. Watson.
- (ii) Write in brief the theme of the extract of the novel ‘The Sign of Four’

(2)

(2)