

Date: 25/04/2022



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Time: 90 Min.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Max. Marks: 40

ICSE Board Class X (Semester-2) Exams

Answers & Solutions (English Paper 1)

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.
- You will not be allowed to write during the first 10 minutes.
- This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.
- The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Attempt **all** questions

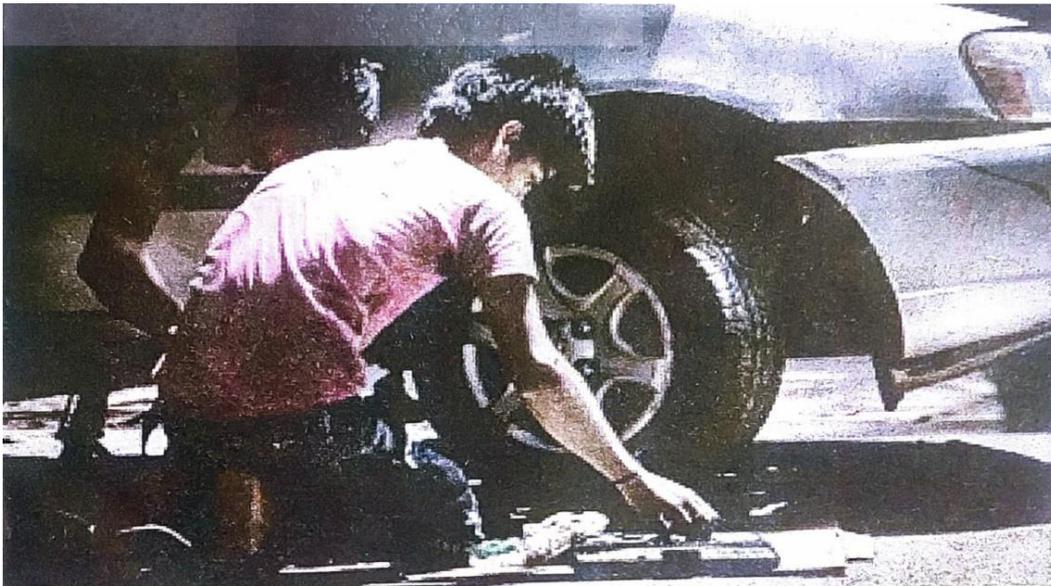
The marks intended for questions are given in brackets []

Question 1

Write a composition (300 - 350 words) on any one of the following:

[20]

- (i) If you were granted a special wish what would you choose? Say why you would make this choice and how it will be useful to you and your loved ones.
- (ii) Write a short story in which the main characters are an old woman, a small child and a little puppy.
- (iii) "More learning happens outside the classroom than inside it."
Express your views either for or against this statement.
- (iv) Describe a time when all the lights in your locality went off. What were the sounds you heard as you sat in the darkness? How did you feel when the lights came on?
- (v) Study the picture given below. Write a short story or description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it.



Solution 1

- (i) Narrative Composition:

Suggested Value Points:

- I wish I would be the Chief Minister of my state. Whenever I see those white cars with red light on the top moving fast, it makes me curious about the politics.
- **Causes** –
 - o When I go to my school, I see beggars at the red lights, a slum just around our Assembly, rag pickers and other poor people
 - o There is a slum between our Assembly and my school
 - o Our CM wants to eradicate poverty from our state but fails every time

- o Severe affliction is felt deep in my heart
 - Garbage everywhere & filthy conditions
 - Cramped houses
 - Thin and miserable conditions of the poor people, especially the kids
 - No or miserable school / park / toilet
- **Inspiration** – “The happiest people I know are those who lose themselves in the service of others”

–Gordon B. Hinckley

 - o The best way to not feel hopeless is to get up and do something. So, my teachers, and the CM of my state are my inspiration.
 - o From day one, the CM has been trying to bring the poor into the main stream. She has a big welfare-oriented heart.
 - o At first, one hospital with multi-speciality divisions was opened.
 - o Opening good school(s) for bright future - as I firmly believe that education can remove poverty
 - o Providing employment through MGNREGA
 - o Distributing loans
 - o Keeps an eye on the condition of the school / park / toilets
- **Benefits** – “Don’t wait for good things to happen to you. If you go out and make some good things happen, you will fill the world with hope, you will fill yourself with hope”. – **Barack Obama**
 - o This will first fill my heart with joy - not just to help poor people but to transform their lives
 - o More people around the state, country and the world will come forward to do the same
 - o This may help to bring all poor people in the state/country/world into the main stream
 - o As the work of these leaders inspires me, my work may inspire other people to be benevolent

(ii) Story:

Format – (Title)

Content – (The story must be original. There must be clarity of plot, logical sequence of events, well defined characters and an apt conclusion)

Expression – (creativity, grammatical accuracy, appropriate words, spellings, coherence & relevance, originality of ideas and style)

The elements of story writing:

- **Theme:** Something important that the story tries to tell
- **Plot:** The systematic arrangements of events
- **Structure:** A good story needs a good structure. You can choose to write either in “first person” or in “third person”. It should be consistent in Tense usage - either in Present Tense or in Past Tense.
- **Characters:** Know your characters well; main character should be someone whom readers can feel something in common with.
- **Setting / Style and Tone:** Use language that is right for your story. Use action and speech to let the readers know what’s happening. Use simple words and sentences with idioms to enhance expression.
- **Climax:** The twist in the tale that keeps the reader engaged.
- **Conclusion:** The end of the story must be definite.

Suggested Value Points:

- Once upon a time, there was a small girl called Bhargavi who had a little puppy called Razor.
- Her parents were never at home because of their work, so they couldn't take care of him but she was responsible enough to take care of the puppy.
- She always fed the puppy on time, played with him, washed him, spent time with him, and treated him like a member of the family.
- Bhargavi always saw an old woman standing on the other side of the street. She lived in her humble shack.
- As her parents had already warned her about that old woman, Bhargavi decided to stay away from her and be careful when she played in the street with her friends and Razor.
- One day, her parents came home early and she decided to go on a walk.
- With the permission of her parents, Bhargavi and the little Razor went for a walk and suddenly Razor started pulling his leash to the other side of the street.
- She thought that Razor had just seen a piece of bone that's why he was asking to go over there.
- While the puppy was pulling her with all his force, one car was coming from behind.
- In that chaos, Bhargavi lost the grip on the leash and car stopped with a heavy jerk. She closed her eyes in stark terror.
- Bhargavi was frightened and thought that she had lost her puppy.
- But when she opened her eyes, she saw that the old woman had saved Razor.
- That day, for the first time, she talked to the lady and got to know the real story behind her miserable life.
- She thanked her for saving her puppy and took a lesson that one shouldn't judge a book by its cover.
- Title: "Don't judge a book by its cover"

(iii) Argumentative Composition:

Format – (topic introduction, mention for/against the idea)**Content** – (cohesive, well-constructed, logical argument and ideas and reasoning based on personal experience)**Expression** – (Grammatical accuracy, appropriate words and spellings, Coherence and relevance of ideas and style)**Topic:** **"More learning happens outside the classroom than inside it"**

Education does not always mean studying in school and college, giving exams and passing that. There is a big world outside the classroom to learn, practice and improve skills. The world in itself is a classroom that gives good and bad experiences and in return provides wisdom.

Favour:**Suggested Value Points:**

- Children who spend more time outdoors make more friends.
- Learning outside improves attitudes towards learning.
- Creates a more active imagination

- Children who spend time outdoors are generally happier than those who stay indoors.
- Time outside increases focus on tasks.
- There are many obstacles to overcome when outdoors, which boosts problem solving skills.
- Time outside improves mental well-being and self-esteem.
- Freedom outdoors can reduce aggression.
- It reduces obesity as children that learn to love the outdoors continue to do so in adult life.

Against:***Suggested Value Points:***

- Health & Safety regulations – There are certain health and safety regulations that teachers must follow to ensure the safety of their pupils and themselves.
- Additional paper work – additional assessment plans, consent and evaluation forms will be required. The school should already have school forms teachers can use.
- Following curriculum requirements – For some subjects such as maths or science it can be difficult to study outside and maintain the curriculum requirements. It could be as simple as taking the class onto the school field.
- Weather – Not having the correct clothing when the weather takes a turn for the worst could prevent outdoor activities. In this case teachers can remind the children the day before to bring appropriate clothing for the outdoors.
- Supervision – The school itself is responsible for assessing and managing the risks.
- Natural Hazards or uneven ground – as long as the appropriate health and safety aspects have been adhered to, teachers need not worry about these types of accidents.

(iv) Descriptive Composition:***Suggested Value Points:***

- It was raining heavily, the street lights had gone off and I was lonely in my home as all the members were out that day due to some work.
- Suddenly I heard a sound behind me. I looked back but no one was there. I started looking for a candle or a torch.
- Again, I heard a sound. This time I was sure I'd heard a screeching cry in pain.
- I took my cell phone and switched on the torch-light and started flashing it around.
- I noticed that the sound was coming from the left side of my home. I was frightened but I gathered courage and went out of my home towards the sound.
- What I saw there gave me goose bumps. A man was lying in a pool of blood and his leg was crushed under a huge tree.
- On asking he told me that he had stopped under the tree and was waiting for the rain to stop when suddenly out of the dark two men came on a bike. They robbed him of his valuables. When he cried for help, they shot him.
- As if it was not enough, a storm started blowing immediately. The old tree could not stand against the raging storm. It was uprooted and his leg was crushed under it as it fell.

- I immediately called the ambulance because I could not lift up that tree. The ambulance arrived within no time.
- Some people came and helped the man. They lifted the tree with lots of labour, put the man in the ambulance and took him to the hospital.
- I felt happy and content that I had saved his life.
- After some time, the power was back and my parents also came back home. I narrated the whole story to them.
- They felt proud of me and also told me to be more cautious whenever such things happen.

(v) Picture Composition:

Topic: Loss of spring of Childhood

Childhood is the best part of anyone's life which may make anyone nostalgic. So is the spring season, where life is in its initial stage, full of beauty and growth. Both childhood and spring season can be equated with each other. But the picture that we see makes us doubt this as we see a child, devoid of spring in his life. He seems, to rather face the autumn, full of hardships at a tender age.

What makes them lose their spring, which should ensure their development? Instead of taking education and building their dreams, why do they indulge in child labour? Why do they have to work in garages or at tea stalls?

- The reasons need to be understood.
 - o Their poverty
 - o They might be orphans
 - o Parents' thinking to push them to work from a tender age so that they may earn some more money
 - o Lack of awareness about importance of education
 - o Lack of enforcement of anti-child labour laws or right to education act
- Effect on the lives of these tender buds
 - o They forget to dream
 - o Get burdened by poverty and responsibility of family.
 - o Get stuck in one place only when they could have flown in the heights of the sky.
 - o Loss for the country too as these gems are born, live and die in the depths of ocean, without any exposure to the light

Suggested Value Points :

- These children's lives can be redeemed if our authorities change their attitude towards them and make stern laws against this practice and ensure their enforcement.
- Education is another powerful magic to transform their lives. Making them aware about their educational rights along with ensuring opportunities for higher education can complete the task.
- Parents too need to change their attitude and find an alternative to have better living instead of pushing their children in this hellfire.
- We as responsible citizens can do our bit by helping them, educating them, donating books, providing meals/clothes/ uniforms etc.

Question 2

Select one of the following:

[10]

- (i) Your favourite aunt / uncle has asked you what you would like as a gift for your birthday. What gift would you choose (specify) and why would you choose this? Write a letter to your aunt/uncle thanking her/him for the kind thought and telling her/him about the gift of your choice.
- (ii) You are being considered for a Head boy / Head girl position in the school. Write a letter to the Principal explaining why you think you would make a good Head boy/Head girl. Why does the role interest you? Describe ways in which you would carry out your responsibilities.

Solution 2

- (i) Informal Letter

Format : (Sender's address, Date, Salutation, Body, Subscription, Sender's name)

Content :

Expression : (Grammatical accuracy, appropriate words, spellings, coherence, relevance of ideas, style, tone – informal)

Suggested Value Points :

- An informal letter illustrates a personal touch to one's thoughts.
- The tone has to be friendly and full of feelings.
- Start with a greeting asking the recipient about their well being. [In this case, the recipient is uncle/aunt].
- State the reason for writing [thanking them].
- Expand on what you mentioned in first para. Tell them about what gift you want and why you chose that.
- You may choose a watch/smart watch.
- Emphasise upon its utilities – time management, taking phone calls, getting notifications as it is connected with smart phone, helps in regulating health
- End by paying your regards.
- Write subscription/complimentary close : Yours lovingly, [add comma].
- Language : Colloquial & Very informal

(Sample)

21, Uphaar colony,
New Delhi – 1000XX
25th April 2022

Dear Aunt,

I am fine here and I hope this letter finds you in good health. Life is treating all of us well. I received your letter wherein you asked what gift I would wish to have this year. It is always a great feeling when I receive my birthday gifts from you and I always keep them close to me.

But, just the idea of you remembering my birthday fills me with joy as you are my favourite aunt. This year I was considering getting a watch. Smart watches are so trendy these days. Those look fashionable as well as have great utility. Along with time management, a smart watch can help you take phone calls and receive messages. It is a mini doctor too and helps you manage your health with apps like pedometer, SPO, BP/pulse rate monitor, etc.

Believe me, it is a wonderful gadget to have. I will be really glad if you present me my favourite smart watch on my birthday. Please convey my regards to my dearest uncle and hugs to Shivam.

Your loving niece,

Priya

(ii) Formal Letter: Letter to the Principal

Format – (Sender's address, Date, Receiver's address, Subject Heading, Salutation, Complimentary Close)

Content

Expression – (grammatical accuracy, appropriate words, spellings, coherence & relevance of ideas and style)

Suggested Value Points:

- Introduction with gratitude for being chosen for the role of Head Girl/Boy
- Describing characteristics that make you suitable for the post
- Emphasis on balance of academic performance & extra-curricular activities
- Concluding sentence seeking opportunity to serve the institution

(Sample Letter)

Kiran

Section A

Class X

SVM Public School

Jaipur

April 25, 2022

The Principal

SVM Public School

Jaipur

Subject – Regarding the selection of the Head boy / Head girl

Respected Ma'am / Sir

I am Kiran Chaudhary, a student of Class X. I feel extremely elated at this opportunity and am grateful towards the concerned authorities for considering me for the post of Head Boy / Girl.

I find myself best suited for this position as I possess all the requisite qualities required to fulfil the desired role and responsibilities.

I am a proactive, confident and persistent learner. I respect and value every teacher and firmly believe in the school vision and mission. I am a sincere and hardworking student and I take part in all academic and additional extracurricular activities with great zeal and enthusiasm.

I was fortunate to even represent our school at the Republic Parade in New Delhi last year from our city. Besides being a top ranker in my class, I also serve as the captain of our volleyball team. Last year in December, we won the inter-state volleyball championship to bring the laurel to our school's name.

I find myself the best candidate for this role because I love challenges. Whenever I see any of my classmates /schoolmates in despair, I counsel them and do my best to resolve the issue.

I hope you consider my candidature for the above role and give me the opportunity to serve the institution to the best of my abilities.

Yours sincerely

Kiran

Class X-A

Question 3

- (i) March 22nd is World Water Day. The school Dramatics Club is planning to stage a one-act play to mark the occasion and create awareness. Write a notice to be put up on the school notice board, giving details of the event. **[5]**
- (ii) Write an e-mail to the Principal of a neighbouring school requesting him/her to send a team of children to participate in the interactive session which will follow the play. **[5]**

Solution 3

- (i) NOTICE:

Format – (The format should include - Creative Title, Date, Time, Venue, other relevant details)

Content – (as per headers)

Expression – (grammatical accuracy, spellings)

Suggested value points:

- Creative Title
- Date
- Time
- Venue
- Other instructions

(Sample)

Save water! Save the Earth!

On this World Water Day, The Dramatics Club is performing a One-Act play

on 22nd March 2022

from 9.00 am to 10.00 am

in school auditorium

All students from Classes IX to XII are requested to assemble in the school auditorium by 8:30 am along with their class teachers.

(ii) E-mail :

Format – (E-mail id, Subject, Salutation, Opening sentence, Closing sentence, Subscription)

Content

Expression – (grammatical accuracy, spellings)

(Sample)

To: principal@st.thomas.org

Subject: Request to send children for an interactive session

Dear Madam,

As the Cultural Secretary of St. Agnes' School, I would like to inform you that we are conducting an interactive session followed up by a play for the students of classes 9th and 10th on the 28th of April, 2022, from 9 am to 4 pm on the topic, "More learning happens outside the classroom than inside it" in the school auditorium.

We request you to send three students from each grade from your school to participate in the session. The winners shall be awarded prizes and certificates of merit.

Anticipating a positive response,

Yours faithfully,

Ankita Sharma

Cultural Secretary,

St. Agnes' School

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