

Model Question English – 4

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1. **Answer two questions in about 10 words.** 1 x 2 = 2

(i) 'But this is unfair' – What is unfair ?

Ans: The quoted remark is an extract from Rajam and Mani by R.K. Narayan.

As it was decided to be a hand to hand fight, Rajam's use of a gun was unfair to Mani, the speaker.

(ii) What is the first step in the process of proper shaving ?

Choose the correct alternatives and complete the sentences.

Ans: The first step in the process of proper shaving is the removal of the facial hair.

(iii) Passengers ferried at each trip was —

(a) 600 (b) 700 (c) 800 (d) 900

Ans: (b) 700.

(iv) "..... environmental plunder is an infringement" The word 'infringement' means

(a) insurgence (b) infiltration (c) violation (d) reduction

Ans: The word 'infringement' means (a) insurgence.

2. **Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words)**

3 x 2 = 6

(i) 'They are an awful lot'

– Why does the speaker say this ?

Ans: The quoted speech is uttered by Swaminathan, a character of the story **Rajam and Mani**.

In this context, Swaminathan warns Mani, that Rajam is the son of a police superintendent. It is a friendly advice to Mani to keep out of

the way of policeman as Mani declares that he would crack the shoulders of Rajam with his club.

- (ii) "Something needs to be done"
– What do the authors mean by it ?

Ans: The authors, Jean Dreze and Amartya Sen of **Consequences of Environment Plunder**, mean by the given remark that it becomes necessary to check the growth of air-pollution, especially from the motorised vehicles in Delhi. The rate of growth is more than 10 percent every year, which is much above WHO standards.

- (iii) 'My tan hid my blushes'
– What made the author blush ?

Ans: The narrator, Jim Corbett, the author of **Life of Mokameh Ghat** blushed with shame as he had made a wrong assumption of the Mohameddan gentleman, the person sitting on the bench near them. He had incorrectly supposed that the gentleman did not know English, while giving an introduction regarding him.

- (iv) "...but only at a certain risk, which I hesitate to advise" – What is the risk which the speaker hesitates to advise ?

Ans: The speaker here, is the consultant, assisting Dr. Follicle in the work of shaving the hair of his patients. The risk suggested here is of snipping the hair about and around the ears, which considered to be a very delicate line of work, also involves hazards.

3. Answer any one of the questions which follow (in about 50 words) :

5 x 1 = 5

- (i) "One of my undertakings..."
What was one of the speaker's undertakings ? How was it developed ?

Ans: The quoted extract is taken from the prose-price, **Life at Mokameh Ghat** by Jim Corbett.

One of the narrator's first undertakings, with a small savings, was to start a school for the sons of his workmen, and for the sons of the lower-paid railway staff.

Both the narrator and Ram Saran, who proposed the idea, rented a hut, installed a master, and the so-called Ram Saran's school initiated with twenty boys. The problems, which arose, like caste prejudices, were resolved. With the continuous support from Ram Saran, suitable buildings were erected and seven masters employed, as the strength of students rose to two hundred. The government, offering financial aid, raised the school to the status of a Middle school.

(ii) Narrate how a sick man was treated by a doctor in the old days.

Ans: According to Stephen Leacock, as presented in the amusing piece **Further Progress in Specialisation**, the treatment of a sick man in the old days, was quite different. The doctor looked at him to examine him, then told him what was diagnosed. He used to be given some medicine and instructed to go to bed. The patient used to follow the directions and either recovered or did not.

(iii) Describe the environment of the sand banks of river Sarayu after their friendship.

Ans: After the friendship between Rajam and Mani, the environment of the sand banks of the river Sarayu, appeared peaceful and serene. The mild rumbling of the river, the rustling of the peepul leaves and the dim light of the late evening, contributed towards an ideal ambience. The peaceful hearts of the friends created a resonance on the atmosphere and nature around.

(iv) How do Dreze and Sen point out that the pollution of air and decline of groundwater level are man made ?

Ans: Jean Dreze and Amartya Sen, justly blame man to be the cause of the pollution of air and decline of ground water level.

They assign the term 'disguised violence' to refer to the hidden process of perils and sufferings caused to common man at the cost of a minority.

In urban areas, a minority of car-owners cause massive pollution, congestion, noise, tension and accident at the expense of the

public. They have no interest to the damage caused to the impoverished and down-trodden.

Similarly, in rural areas, intensive groundwater exploitation by the privileged farmers, has deprived the majority of access to irrigation. Thus, only a few area making fortunes causing perils to others.

4. Answer any two question :

1 x 2 = 2

(i) Out of her chamber' – What is the chamber of the moon ?

Ans: In the poem 'The Moon', the poet P.B. Shelley refers to the clouds as the chamber of the moon behind which the moon lies unseen to the common eye.

(ii) "Still gazing at them..."

– What does 'them' refer to ?

Choose the correct alternatives –

Ans: The word 'them' in the quoted extract from the poem 'Nature' refers to the broken playthings of the little child who is reluctant to abandon them.

(iii) "...its way into the dreary desert"

The word 'dreary' means _____

(a) cheerful (b) dear (c) dark (dull)

Ans: The word 'dreary' means (d) dull.

(iv) The clays of a cold star are —

(a) earth's soil (b) human body (c) human life (d) none.

Ans: The clays of a cold star are (b) human body.

5. Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words)

3 x 2 = 6

(i) "Stars that have a different birth"

— Why are the stars said to have a different birth ?

Ans: P.B. Shelley, in the poem **The Moon** blends poetic beauty with scientific truth. Stars are said to have a different birth in accordance to the concept of the planetary system in which the stars are all separate

Suns. Thus, each sun or star has its own family of planets and satellites.

- (ii) “How far the unknown transcends the what we know” — Explain the significance of the phrase “what we know”.

Ans: The phrase “what we know” is significant in the quoted line from the poem ‘Nature’ by H.W. Longfellow. It refers to the experiences and knowledge gained in our earthly life which are insufficient and incapable of explaining what lies beyond the earthly, physical life.

- (iii) “Where the mind is led forward by thee into ever — widening thought and action”

What do you mean by “ever-widening thought and action” ?

Ans: The phrase ‘ever-widening thought and action’ in Tagore’s poem ‘Where the Mind is Without Fear’ is quite relevant to the theme of the poem. The poet preaches that our minds, instead of being engulfed in prejudices and narrow superstitions, must be enriched by thoughts and actions, which are worthy and beneficial for the sake of the country.

- (iv) “—O what made fatuous sunbeams toil” — Why are sunbeams called fatuous ?

Ans: The quoted line is extracted from the poem ‘Futility’ composed by Wilfred Owen. The sunbeams are called ‘fatuous’ as they are incompetent to arouse the earth to support life and vitality. In other words, the soldier’s unwanted death at the prime stage of his life-time calls for the immediate healing action of nature, which seems passive.

6. Answer any one of the questions which follow (in about 50 words) : 5x1 = 5

- (i) Bring out Shelley’s imagery in the poem, ‘The Moon’.

Ans: ‘The Moon’ is a brilliant fusion of poetic craftsmanship and skilled imagery. The moon has been compared to two different persons in the two stanzas : a lean and senile body in the first stanza and a lonely and weary lady in quest of a companion.

The moon emerges from a thin veil of clouds which is represented as a pale woman who hides herself in a ‘ganzylveil’. Again,

the 'shapeless mass' of the moon is the image created to evoke the picture of the moon covered by a thin layer of clouds. The slow and blurred visibility brings to one's mind the image of the 'feeble wanderings of a senile lady.'

The poet, draws to focus, the singularity of the moon in the sky and evokes the image of lady, 'wandering companionless'. The poet that the moon and the stars are different geographical presence, is artistically highlighted as having 'a different birth'. The 'joyless eye' of the moon highlights the image of a young lady in search of her beloved as she finds herself in solitude in the vast open sky.

Thus Shelley accomplishes in the artistic delineation of fine and intricate imagery.

- (ii) "Where the mind is without fear" — What type of mental condition is required to attain ideal freedom as dreamt of by Rabindranath ?

Ans: According to Rabindranath Tagore, attainment of ideal freedom was definitely an arduous but the most dreamt of situation in our country, in the pre-independent India. One must possess a fearless mind with one's head held high in self-esteem. Knowledge gained by the countrymen ought to be free from prejudices. The world should not be compartmentalised through internal strifes and feuds. The mental make-up should be free from the superstitious, narrow and gloomy practices. The poet, finally, conceives of a situation, where the mind is guided by the Divine One to awaken ourselves from the errors of our commitments.

- (iii) Narrate in brief the philosophical view of life that Longfellow has presented in his poem, 'Nature'.

Ans: H.W. Longfellow has achieved in presenting in a subtle but bold manner, a philosophical undercurrent in the poem **Nature**. The poet presents the concept of the brevity of earthly life and the caressing touch of Nature upon mankind. Nature nurtures human life offering the material pleasures and attachments. Gradually, we are detached from the same earthly bindings by the imperceptible play of Nature. We are prepared to face the ultimatum of earthly life, being mentally and

physically exhausted. But surprisingly, in our preparatory stage to face the physical death, we remain ignorant about the psychic life or the journey hereafter to the vast sea of eternity after death.

(iv) "Gently its touch awoke him once"

How did the 'touch' awake the soldier at home ?

Ans: The quoted line is extracted from **Futility**, a composition of Wilfred Owen.

The 'touch' here refers to the rejuvenating and caressing touch of the sunbeams.

The 'touch' of the sunbeams awoke the soldier in his native land, in a pastoral countryside. The sun would awake him, at home, with the message of a prospect ahead of life. His commitments were expected on the fields where the seeds were yet to be sown for agriculture.

7. Answer any four questions which follow (each in a complete sentence)

1 x 4 = 4

(i) "It smells delicious" — What smells delicious ?

Ans: The quoted speech extracted from 'The Bishop's Candlesticks' refers to the soup prepared by Persome, with the assistance of the maid-servant, Marie.

(ii) Who was Jeanette ?

Ans: Jeanette, in the play, The Bishop's Candlesticks, is the wife of the convict, who intrudes into the Bishop's house.

(iii) What number was given to the convict ?

Ans: The convict, a character in the play The Bishop's Candlesticks was given the number 15728 in prison.

(iv) What did the convict steal ?

Ans: The convict, a character in The Bishop's Candlesticks stole one of Bishop's coveted possessions, a pair of silver candlesticks.

(v) "They caught me" — Who are 'they' referred to here ?

Ans: "They caught me" — In the given speech uttered by the convict from The Bishop's Candlesticks, 'they' refers to the policemen.

(vi) "It is a very lonely path" — Which is a lonely path ?

Ans: "It is a very lonely path" — The speaker, the Bishop, in the play, *The Bishop's Candlesticks*, refers to the path through the woods at the back of his cottage. 'The lonely path' leads to Paris.

8. Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words)

3 x 2 = 6

(i) "For the first time in thirty years."

— What does the speaker mean by this ?

Ans: The speaker, the Bishop, in the play *The Bishop Candlesticks* refers to the door and window of his house which having been left always open for the last thirty years, are shut for the first time. He does so on being insisted by the Convict.

(ii) "If people lie to me they are poorer, not I"

— How are the people poorer than the speaker ?

Ans: According to the Bishop, one of the central characters of the play. *The Bishop's Candlesticks*, the people are 'poorer' or inferior in spiritual upliftment, if they pose of be liars. The Bishop's generosity and a superior spiritual status is reflected here.

(iii) "They took away my name, they took away my soul, and they give me a devil in its place"

What does the speaker mean here ?

Ans: The speaker, the Convict in the play, *The Bishop's Candlesticks* refers to the hellish experience of prison-life through this utterance. He was compelled to surrender not only his identity but the virtuosity of his soul. In return he was gifted with the Satanic features of violence and ignoring.

(iv) "... you will soon have nothing left."

— What is the apprehension of the speaker ?

Ans: The speaker, Persome, a character in the play **Progress** apprehends the fact that the Bishop would soon become bankrupt by giving away his possessions to all. It seems a ridiculous affair to her.

9. Answer any one of the questions which follow (in about 50 words) :

5 x 1 = 5

- (i) Explain the significance of the salt-cellars episode in 'The Bishop's Candlesticks'.

Ans: The salt-cellars episode in the play. The Bishop's Candlesticks initiates with the setting of the table by Persome in assistance of Marie, the maid-servant. Marie appears quite embarrassed being unable to follow the mistress' order to lay them on the table. Persome is infuriated to learn that the salt-cellars were sold under the orders of the Bishop. He was compelled to do it for Mere Gringoire, who was bedridden and incompetent for work. She had to pay the rent to the bailiff, so she sent little Jean to Monseignour to ask for help.

The entire episode seems detestable to Persome who cannot accept the absence of the salt-cellars, gasping 'and now my beautiful — beautiful salt-cellars'.

- (ii) "It is a just punishment for me" — Why does the Bishop consider the loss of candlesticks to be his just punishment ?

Ans: The Bishop considers the loss of candlesticks to be his just punishment. He realises his materialistic affinity towards the salt-cellars which is quite unbecoming of a Bishop. A Bishop, a man of the religious world ought not to have inclination for his personal belongings. He expresses the sin committed by him.

- (iii) Describe in brief the Bishop's kitchen.

The kitchen of the Bishop's cottage, located thirty miles from Paris, is substantially furnished. The doors are set in and left and left-corner. There is a window at the right-corner. A fireplace is installed with a heavy mantelpiece down right. An oak-settle with cushions which the L.C. door may be observed. A table is placed in the window right corner with writing materials and crucifix. An eight-day clock is placed right of the windows. A kitchen dresser with a cupboard is placed at the left. An oak dining table is placed at the right corner; there are chairs, books

etc. On the mantelpiece are two very handsome candlesticks which seem incongruent with their surroundings.

10.A. Rewrite the sentence which follow as directed, without changing their meaning : 2 x 5 = 10

(i) I believe that charity begins at home. (Use the noun form of believe)

Ans: It is my belief that charity begins at home.

(ii) "Was it for this the clay grew tall ?" said the poet. (Change into indirect speech)

Ans: The poet asked if it was for that the clay had grown tall.

(iii) Where the mind is without fear (Omit, ;'without fear')

Ans: Where the mind is fearless.

(iv) The poor of India have no enmity against each other. (Begin : there is no.....)

Ans: There is no enmity among the poor of India.

(v) There is an aspect of what may be called disguised violence. (Split up the sentence)

Ans: There is an aspect. It may be called disguised violence.

B. Fill in the numbered blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions : 3

Crosthwaite listened (i) great interest (ii) all I had told him (iii) the passengers on (iv) lower deck, and he now asked me who (v) man was who was sitting (vi) the bench near us.

Ans: (i) with (ii) to (iii) about (iv) the (v) the (vi) on.

C. With each of the following wh-words, frame a question in such a way that the answer matches the given content :

1 x 2 = 2

(i) What :

Content : The lady is looking for an object. It should be worth her constancy.

Ans: What should be the worth of the object the lady is looking for ?

(ii) Where :

Content : One morning I was leaning over the upper deck of the steamer.

Ans: Where were you learning over one morning ?

11.(a) Write a letter within 120 words to the editor of an English daily responding to the appeal for help for the victims of flood in the several parts of W.B. 10

Ans : The Editor
The Telegraph
6, Prafulla Sarkar Street
Kolkata – 700001.

Sir,

In response to the appeal for aid to the flood–victims of West Bengal, as a sincere citizen, volunteer to extend my helping hand to the authority–in–charge.

I modestly request the authority to accept the aid, which would be forwarded in cash by cheque in favour of the authority in jurisdiction of your reputed daily.

I would be obliged if my humble aid is acknowledged by you and pray that the victims receive at least some relief from their intolerable plight.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

Rohit Sarkar

25.02.09
11, Garden High Road
Kolkata : 700012.

OR

(b) Write a letter within 120 words to your friend describing to him/her about the importance and future of vocational education.

Ans: 10B, R. L. Avenue
Kolkata – 700043
7th March, 2009

Dear Ishita,

It was indeed a pleasant surprise receiving your letter at a time drowned amidst the volumes of books always around me. But, on going through the contents, I could feel your anxiety regarding your future. I would like to assure

you that you can be benefited from vocational guidance which is offered in many institutions.

Well, my words may not be trusted, but I have seen my peers and others hankering for a guidance. In fact, the traditional and academic system of education does not offer any scope for the development of our skills in different areas like technical world, agriculture, craftsmanship etc. But there are institutes like the Industrial Technological Institute, Polytechnic Institute, Glass and Ceramic Institutes, The George Telegraph Institute where such education is imparted.

In fact, my dear friend, if we can equip ourselves with an additional diploma or a degree from such vocational institutions, our prospect of getting a worthy job becomes more ensured. Moreover, employers would prefer candidates with such additional qualifications apart from our experience and academic qualifications.

Well, the jasmine saplings that you had planted are now just beginning to bloom in my garden and I can feel your presence in them. Do convey my regards to dear aunt and uncle.

With lots of love,

Yours always,
Soumi.

12.(a) Write a newspaper report on the Annual Prize giving ceremony of your school (within 150 words) 10

Ans: A Precious Evening

Kolkata, 10th March, 2009 : The Annual Prize giving ceremony was an occasion of grandeur as usual at the Vidyasagar Vidyapith this year. The Mayor of Kolkata, having offered his precious presence was honoured as the Chief Guest, distributing prizes to the deserving students, students from different spheres like academics, sports, extra-curricular activities were given due recognition. A gala cultural concert was presented by the students of the higher secondary faculty. The toddlers of the primary level participated in recitation accompanied by dance and the secondary students ornamented the show with their excellent recital on instruments. The teachers and guardians, who graced the occasion left with a note of praise and applause for each and every event.

The administration, staff and students had all contributed to make the programme a grand success.

Soham Dutta (Cl.–XII)

Vidyasagar Vidyapith

OR

(b) Write a summary of the passage which follows in about 100 words :

There are two kinds of books, good books and bad books. I am not to assume that you are not acquainted with this plain and simple fact, but I may remind you that it is becoming a very important consideration in our day. And we have to cast aside together the idea people have, that if they are reading any books they are doing rather better than nothing at all. I must earnestly call that idea to question; I even venture to deny that. It would be much safer better for many a reader that he had no concern with books at all. There is a number, a frightfully increasing number of books that are decidedly not useful at all. But an ingenious reader will learn also that a certain number of books are written by a supremely noble kind of people, who are fit to occupy all your reading industry.

Ans: The narrator ventures to make a humble suggestion. According to him, books may be classified as good or bad. It is advisable not to read books at all rather than making an attempt to read a worthless book. In fact, certain books written by supremely noble class deserve the right to enter the reading industry. (Approx. 50 words)

13. Read the passage below and answer the questions which follow :

Ernest Rutherford was the son of a Scots emigrant to New Zealand. His father established the first flax mill in South Island. His mother was the first woman school teacher in New Zealand. They had 12 children of whom Ernest was the fourth. He was brought up in a real frontier atmosphere and it entered into the nature of the man. Life was hard, but it was adventurous. His education was in a state primary school from which children at the age of 13 could get grants of scholarships to secondary school and to the infant universities. Rutherford had no intention of following an academic career. He was no book worm. He was good in any rough-and-tumble and a keen football player, but he was good at Latin and he had passion for music and a mechanical mind. At Nelson College,

a state boarding school, he was an outstanding pupil, and because his masters expected it of him, he sat for a scholarship to Canterbury College and won it.

The college in these days was a very humble academic institution with seven professors and 150 students. Its science laboratory for both physics and chemistry — was a tin shack. But he was lucky with his teachers there. The physics professor was an eccentric by the academic standards of the day who appreciated originality more than precision. But he was counterbalanced by the mathematics professor, who was a strict pedant. The one gave Rutherford adventurous versatility of thought, the other gave him his discipline.

Rutherford, as a student, became fascinated by Hertz's work on radio waves and in the cloakroom of the college, where the students hung their gowns, he found a corner for his own private experiments. He could detect signals at a distance of two miles. He was then 23. He won a scholarship which took him to Britain and the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge.

(A) Complete each of the sentences which follow by choosing the correct answers from the alternatives given :

$$1 \times 7 = 7$$

(i) Rutherford's mother was a — (a) clerk (b) cook (c) social worker (d) school teacher.

Ans: Rutherford's mother was a school teacher. (d)

(ii) As a school-child Rutherford was most interested in —
(a) an academic career (b) books (c) tough games and sports (d) scholarships.

Ans: As a school-child Rutherford was most interested in tough games and sports. (c)

(iii) Nelson College was a — (a) boarding school (b) big college (c) small college (d) new university.

Ans: Nelson College was a boarding school (a).

(iv) The science laboratory of Canterbury College looked like — (a) an ordinary laboratory (b) an old laboratory (c) a modern laboratory.

Ans: The science laboratory of Canterbury College looked like an old laboratory. (b)

(v) The cloakroom is the place where people — (a) dance (b) make radio waves (c) hang their clothes.

Ans: The cloakroom is the place where people hang their clothes. (c)

(vi) Rutherford could detect signals when he was only —

(a) 21 (b) 26 (c) 23.

Ans: Rutherford could detect signals when he was only 23. (c)

(vii) Cavendish Laboratory is situated at

(a) Britain (b) New Zealand (c) Cambridge (d) India.

Ans: Cavendish Laboratory is situated at Britain. (a)

(B) Answer the questions which follow (each in about 20 words) : $2 \times 4 = 8$

(i) Where was Rutherford brought up ?

Ans: Rutherford was brought up at South Island in New Zealand.

(ii) How many students and professors were there at Canterbury College ?

Ans: There were seven professors and a hundred and fifty students at Canterbury College.

(iii) What was Rutherford's passion ?

Ans: Rutherford had a passion for music.

(iv) Why did Rutherford sit for to Canterbury College and what was the result ?

Ans: Rutherford sat for a scholarship at Canterbury College as his masters expected it.

The result was that he was successful in winning the scholarship.

(C) Rearrange the sentences which follow in their proper order :

(i) He was an outstanding pupil at Nelson College.

(ii) He got his education from a primary school.

(iii) Rutherford was the son of a scots emigrant to New Zealand.

(iv) He sat for a scholarship and won it.

(v) He sat for a scholarship and won it.

(vi) He was a football player.

Ans: (iii) Rutherford was the son of a scots emigrant to New Zealand.

(ii) He got his education from a primary school.

(v) He sat for a scholarship and won it.

(i) He was an outstanding pupil at Nelson College.

(iv) He sat for a scholarship and won it.