

**KOTHARI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, NOIDA**  
**PRE-BOARD 1 EXAMINATION; SESSION: 2023-24**  
**GRADE: 12 SUBJECT: ENGLISH CORE (301)**  
**[SET A]**

**DATE & DAY: 22 NOVEMBER 2023, TUESDAY**

**MAXIMUM MARKS: 80**

**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_**

**TIME ALLOTTED: 3 HOURS**

**ROLL NO: \_\_\_\_\_**

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**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- i). The Question Paper contains THREE sections - READING, WRITING, and LITERATURE.*
- ii). Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*

**SECTION A - READING SKILLS (22 Marks)**

**I Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages**

**1) Read the passage given below:**

**12**

- 1 Sleep is essential for a person's health and well-being. Yet millions of people do not get enough sleep and many suffer from lack of sleep. Most of those with these problems go undiagnosed and untreated. In addition, more than 40 per cent of adults, experience daytime sleepiness severe enough to interfere with their daily activities at least a few days each month - with 20 per cent reporting sleepiness a few days a week or more. Furthermore, 69 per cent of children experience one or more sleep problems a few nights or more during a week.
- 2 If a sleep-deprived person doesn't sleep after the initial signs, the person may then start to experience apathy, slowed speech and flattened emotional responses, impaired memory and an inability to be novel or multitask. As a person gets to the point of falling asleep, he or she will fall into micro sleeps (5-10 seconds that cause lapses in attention, nod off while doing an activity like driving or reading and then finally experience hallucinations.
- 3 Everyone's individual sleep needs vary. In general, most healthy adults are built for 16 hours of wakefulness and need an average of eight hours of sleep a night. However, some individuals are able to function without sleepiness or drowsiness after as little as six hours of sleep. Others can't perform at their peak unless they've slept ten hours. And, contrary to common myth, the need for sleep doesn't decline with age but the ability to sleep for six to eight hours at one time may be reduced.
- 4 Stress is the number one cause of short-term sleeping difficulties, according to sleep experts. Common triggers include school or job-related pressures, a family or marriage problem and a serious illness or death in the family. Usually the sleep problem disappears when the stressful situation passes.

However, if short-term sleep problems such as insomnia aren't managed properly from the beginning, they can persist long after the original stress has passed.

- 5 Drinking alcohol or beverages containing caffeine in the afternoon or evening, exercising close to bedtime, following an irregular morning and nighttime schedule, and working or doing other mentally intense activities right before or after getting into bed can disrupt sleep.
- 6 If you are among the 20 per cent of employees in the United States who are shift workers, sleep maybe particularly elusive. Shift work forces you to try to sleep when activities around you - and your own biological rhythms - signal you to be awake. One study shows that shift workers are two to five times more likely than employees with regular, daytime hours to fall asleep on the job. Groups that are at particular risk of sleep deprivation include night shift workers, physicians and truck drivers.
- 7 Travelling also disrupts sleep, especially jet lag and travelling across several time zones. This can upset your biological or circadian rhythms. Environmental factors such as a room that's top hot or cold, to noisy or too brightly lit can be a barrier to sound sleep. And interruptions from children or other family members can also disrupt sleep. Other influences to pay attention to are the comfort and size of your bed and the habits of your sleep partner. If you have to lie beside someone who has different sleep preferences, snores, can't fall or stay asleep, or has other sleep difficulties, it often becomes your problem too!
- 8 Having a 24/ lifestyle can also interrupt regular sleep patterns: the global economy that includes round the clock industries working to beat the competition; widespread use of nonstop automated systems to communicate and an increase in shift work makes for sleeping a regular times difficult.
- 9 A number of physical problems can interfere with your ability to fall or stay asleep. For example, arthritis and other conditions that cause pain, backache or discomfort can make it difficult to sleep well. It is a good idea to talk to a physician or mental health provider about any sleeping problem that recurs or persists for longer than a few weeks.

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above:**

- i Sleep deprivation among 40% of adults results in \_\_\_\_\_ 1**
- (a) night time sleepiness affecting the daytime activities for a few days each month.
  - (b) daytime sleepiness affecting daily activities for a few days of the month.
  - (c) sleepiness affecting nighttime sleep for a few days every month.
  - (d) sleep activities from childhood to adulthood.
- ii With which statement given below would the readers of the passage agree? 1**
- (a) Shift work forces you to work when your biological rhythms want you to remain awake at night and activities all around you are ongoing.
  - (b) Shift work forces you to sleep when your biological rhythms are tired and sleepy.
  - (c) Shift work forces you to sleep when activities all around you and your biological rhythms signal you to remain awake.

(d) Shift work forces you to work when your biological rhythms work in sync with your work schedule.

iii **Based on your understanding of the text what are various disadvantages of short term sleeping difficulties? Explain in 40 words.** 2

iv **Complete the following sentence appropriately:** 1

The general consensus of opinion is that \_\_\_\_\_.

v **Select the correct option from the following that is similar in meaning to 'hallucination':** 1

- (a) realest
- (c) delusion
- (b) realist
- (d) reliance

vi **Mention how physical problems can affect falling asleep and remaining asleep.** 2

vii **In the line, "...Travelling also disrupts sleep, especially jet lag and travelling across several time zones." What does the word 'disrupts' means?** 1

viii **List TWO outcomes that follow when a sleep deprived person does not fall asleep.** 2

ix **Read the five titles (1) to (5) given below:** 1

1. SLEEPLESSNESS - THE BANE OF MODERN LIFE
2. BANISH SLEEPLESSNESS BY ERADICATING ITS CAUSES
3. THE MULTI-PRONGED CAUSES OF SLEEPLESSNESS
4. CAN SLEEPLESSNESS BE TACKLED?
5. SLEEPLESSNESS - A BOON FOR MODERN LIFE

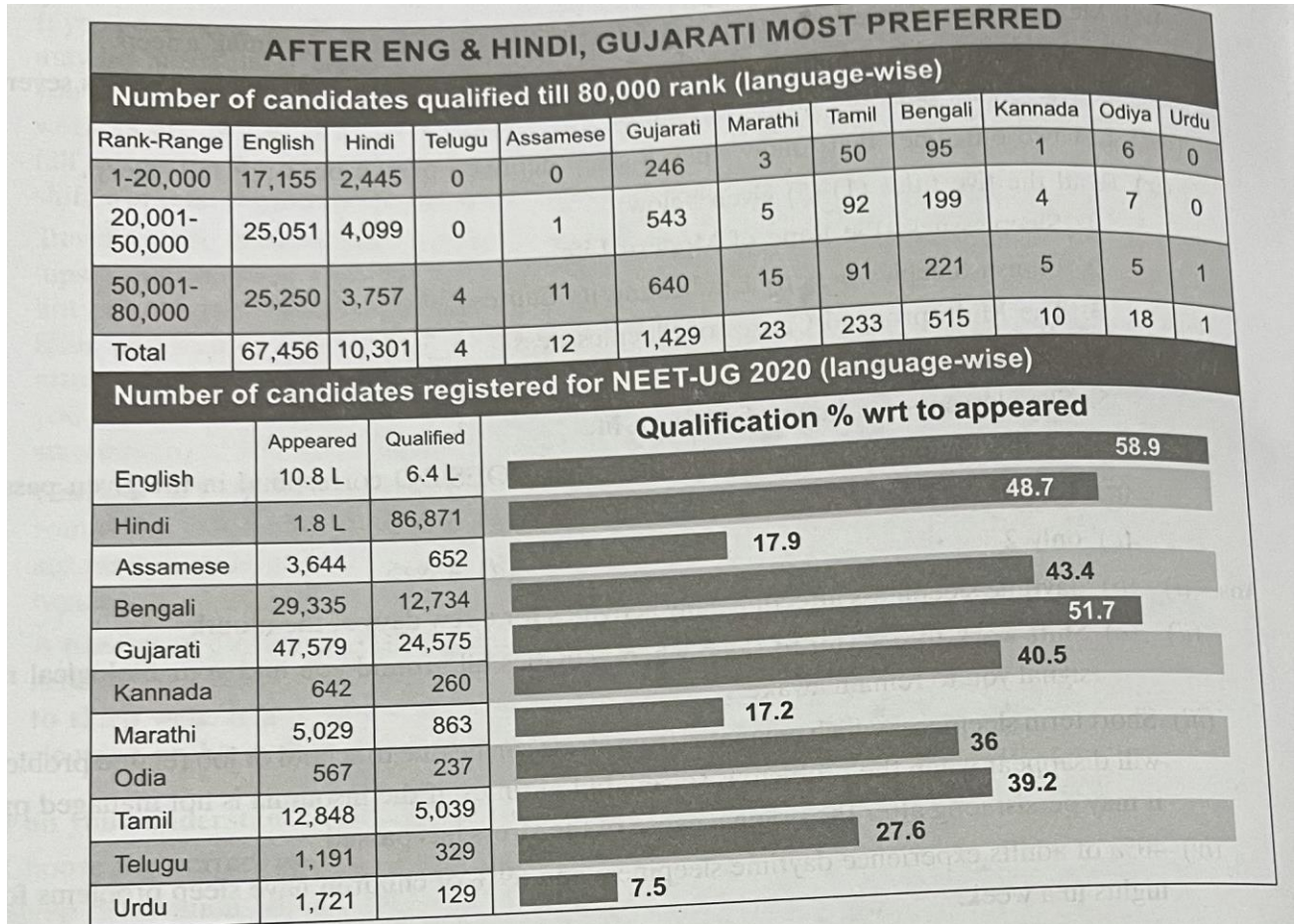
**Identify the option that displays the title(s) that DOES/ DO correspond with the given passage:**

- (a) 1 & 2
- (b) 3 & 5
- (c) only 2
- (d) 4 & 5

2) **Read the passage given below:** 10

1 While the Centre plans to offer JEE (Main) in regional languages too, results of NEET-UG 2020 reveal that of the nearly 7.7 lakh candidates who qualified, over 1.3 lakh took the test in 10 Indian languages, with 25,701 such students among the top 1 lakh.

- 2 The healthy percentage of successful students in various languages shows that domain knowledge is not limited to those fluent in English. However, such students often face a major language hurdle as technical lessons are imparted in English. They should be given free English tuitions to enable them to keep pace with the course. Efforts can also be made to publish technical books in other Indian languages.



- 3 Apart from English, NEET-UG is offered in 10 Indian languages Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Marathi, Odia, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu. Experts say if these exams had not been conducted in regional languages, many candidates would have struggled to qualify as they may not have been comfortable in English.
- 4 Welcoming the plans to offer JEE (Main) in regional languages, experts said this would help candidates who study in vernacular language at the senior secondary level. Educationist and CBSE ex-chief Ashok Ganguly said since admission to engineering colleges is based on one exam, students in vernacular medium shouldn't be deprived of a level-playing field.
- 5 "But these students will definitely find it difficult to appear in JEE (Advanced). It would be better to fix some state quota for colleges like NITs and their exam be held separately with option to appear in regional languages but for national quota, the medium should only be English. In any case, a student

from vernacular medium will find it difficult to continue in IIT. So JEE (Advanced must be continued in English medium."

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above:**

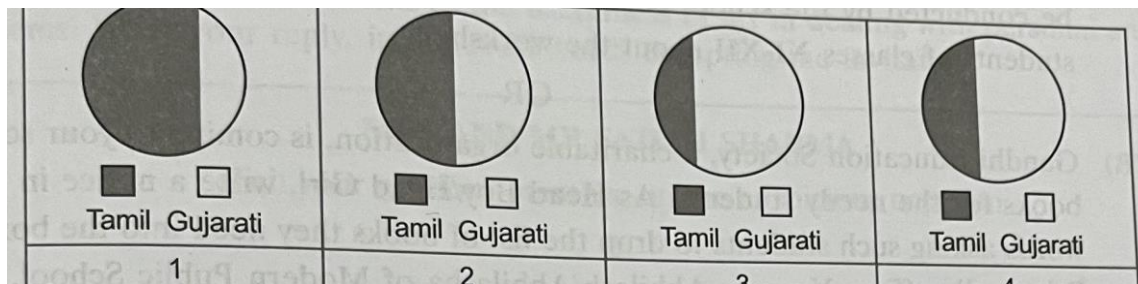
**i What did the experts opine about the plans to offer JEE (Main) in regional languages? 2**

**ii Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the statement which is not correct: 1**

- (a) NEET-UG 2020 exam was conducted in ten regional languages including Marathi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.
- (b) NEET-UG 2020 exam was conducted in ten regional languages including Marathi, Odia, English and Assamese.
- (c) NEET-UG 2020 exam was conducted in ten regional languages including Kannada, Marathi, Odia and Tamil.
- (d) NEET-UG 2020 exam was conducted in ten regional languages including Hindi, Assamese, Bengali and Gujarati.

**iii Among regional languages, the highest number of qualifying candidates are from which language? 1**

**iv Based on the graphical chart given in the passage, choose the option that correctly states the number of appeared candidates in Tamil and Gujarati language: 1**



- (a) Option 1
- (b) Option 2
- (c) Option 3
- (d) Option 4

**v Pick the option that lists TRUE statements according to the given percentage of qualified candidates: 1**

- 1. After English and Hindi, Gujarati is the most preferred language.
- 2. After Marathi and Tamil, Urdu is the most preferred language.
- 3. After Gujarati and Bengali, Tamil is the most preferred language.
- 4. After Marathi, Odia and Telugu are the least preferred languages.

- (a) 1 and 3
- (b) 2 and 4
- (c) 1 and 2
- (d) 1 and 4

- vi **What sort of difficulties will the students face later on? What will be its better solution?** 2
- vii **Complete the sentence appropriately:** 1  
Some students should be given free English tuitions to keep pace with the technical course. It is because \_\_\_\_\_.
- viii **State TRUE or FALSE.**  
Apart from English, NEET-UG is offered in 10 Indian languages. 1

## II **SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18 Marks)**

**Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purposes.**

- 3) **Attempt in about 50 words:** 4  
Draft an **INVITATION** to be sent to all the Parents on the eve of your School Annual Day to be held on 15 December 2023. Give all the necessary details.
- 4) **Attempt in about 50 words:** 4  
You are Rahul/ Ravina. You have been invited to attend the wedding of your friend's brother.  
**RESPOND** to the invitation, regretting your inability to attend it.
- 5) **Attempt in about 120-150 words:** 5  
You are Gaurav/ Gunjan residing at 323, Kale Sarai, Delhi. You are keen to join a highly reputable pharma company as a Chartered Accountant. You come across the following advertisement in a leading newspaper and decide to apply to it. Write **A LETTER/ AN APPLICATION FOR A JOB** with your **BIODATA**, responding to the below given advertisement:

*Required a qualified CA with 3-year experience, 25-28 years, well-versed in finance matters, fluency in English necessary, pleasant personality, good salary.*

*Send resume within a week to:  
Manager, CIPLA, Connaught Place, New Delhi.*

6) **Attempt in about 120-150 words:**

5

You are Manav/ Manjari of Maharaja Agrasen Public School, Patna. Your School has organised a Blood Donation Camp on the occasion of Blood Donor Day, on 14 June 2023. Write a **REPORT** as the Editor of your School Magazine on this widely acclaimed activity.

**You can use the cues given below along with your own ideas:**

- *Blood Donation Camp in School premises*
- *In association with Rotary Club of Noida*
- *Qualified Doctors/ Efficient Volunteers and Staff*
- *A great success for a great social cause*

III **SECTION C – LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 Marks)**

7) **Read the given extracts and answer the questions that follow:**

6

*'It would be an exotic moment without rush, without engines, we would all be together in a sudden strangeness.'* **(KEEPING QUIET)**

i **Which of the following options is best to describe the exotic moment?**

- (a) An idle moment
- (b) A rare moment
- (c) A moment of introduction
- (d) A moment of introspection

ii **State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE, with reference to the extract.**  
In the first line, **'It'** signifies total stillness.

iii **Complete the sentence appropriately:**

The 'exotic moment' means the moment with \_\_\_\_\_.

iv **In the absence of engines, the poet expects \_\_\_\_\_.**

v **The poetic device used in 'sudden strangeness' is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- (a) Metaphor
- (b) Simile
- (c) Alliteration
- (d) Pun

vi Select the option that is true with regard to the following:

The moment' would bring us all together as we would \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) give up all work and play
- (b) oblige one another
- (c) have no fights and no arguments
- (d) judge people rationally

8) Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow:

4

*'Thus agreed, together they lifted the man. He was very light, like a fowl that had been half-starved for a long time until it is only feathers and skeleton. So, his arms hanging, they carried him up the steps and into the side door of the house. This door opened into a passage, and down the passage they carried the man towards an empty bedroom.'*  
**(THE ENEMY)**

i Who are they' in the above extract?

ii Due to extreme weakness of the man, it was clear that the man \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) was on a recovery diet
- (b) was suffering from tuberculosis
- (c) had eaten almost nothing for a long time
- (d) was very poor

iii The empty bedroom was used \_\_\_\_\_.

iv Pick out a SIMILE from the above extract.

9) Read the given extracts and answer the questions that follow:

6

*'My acquaintance with the barefoot rag-pickers leads me to Seemapuri, a place on the periphery of Delhi yet miles away from it, metaphorically. Those who live here are squatters who came from Bangladesh back in 1971. Saheb's family is among them. Seemapuri was then a wilderness. It still is, but it is no longer empty. In structures of mud, with roofs of tin and tarpaulin, devoid of sewage, drainage or running water, live 10,000 rag-pickers. They have lived here for more than thirty years without an identity, without permits but with ration cards that get their names on voters' lists and enable them to buy grain. Food is more important for survival than an identity.'* (THE LOST SPRING)



- i List any two sensory details present in this extract.
- ii Seemapuri was then a wilderness. It indicates that it was \_\_\_\_\_.  
  - (a) beautiful
  - (b) in ruins
  - (c) filled with greenery
  - (d) uninhabited, no human activity.
- iii Complete the sentence appropriately:  
 Squatters occupy a place with no \_\_\_\_\_.
- iv Pick evidence from the extract that helps one infer that there is lack of basic amenities of life.
- v What is more important for the rag-pickers?
- vi Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract?  
  - (a) THE POOR CONDITION OF RAG-PICKERS
  - (b) THE CONDITION OF DELHI
  - (c) MIGRATION OF PEOPLE
  - (D) THE ECONOMIC CONDITION OF PEOPLE

10) **Answer the following questions, in about 40-50 words:**

10

- i Why did Edla still entertain the Peddler even after she knew the truth about him? (**THE RATTRAP**)
- ii Why did Gandhiji oppose the help of Charles Andrews in the freedom struggle? (**INDIGO**)
- iii How did Saheb get a pair of shoes? Was he happy with them? (**THE LOST SPRING**)
- iv What kind of relationship did Sophie and her brother share? Give two examples to support your answer. (**GOING PLACES**)
- v What is the untold sorrow of the owners of the roadside stand? (**A ROADSIDE STAND**)

11) **Answer the following questions, in about 40-50 words:**

4

- i Why does Charley say that the Grand Station is growing like a tree, in the story The Third Level? (**THE THIRD LEVEL**)
- ii What does Zitkala-Sa remember about her first day in the land of apples? (**MEMORIES OF CHILDHOOD**)

12) **Answer the following questions, in about 120-150 words:** **5**

Why does Douglas as an adult recount a childhood experience of terror and his conquering of it? What larger meaning does he draw by this experience? **(DEEP WATER)**

13) **Answer the following questions, in about 120-150 words:** **5**

Describe the efforts made by the Tiger King to achieve his target of killing a hundred tigers. **(THE TIGER KING)**