

**SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT – II (2014-2015)**  
**ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE**  
**Class - X**

**Time: 3hours Maximum Marks: 70**

**Instructions :**

The question paper is divided into **three sections.**

<b>Section A</b>	:	<b>Reading</b>	<b>20 marks</b>
<b>Section B</b>	:	<b>Writing and Grammar</b>	<b>25 marks</b>
<b>Section C</b>	:	<b>Literature</b>	<b>25 marks</b>

**SECTION A : READING**  
**(20 Marks)**

1	<p><b>Read the following passage carefully :</b></p> <p>One of the major crises facing the country is the looming water shortage. A recent report of the UN had named India among the worst countries for poor quality of water. The report ranks 122 countries according to the quality of their water as well as their ability and commitment improve the situation. Belgium is considered the worst basically because of the quality of its ground water.</p> <p>Rains filled most parts of India last year and the vast areas of Rajasthan, Madhya Pardesh, Andhra and Orissa were in the grip of devastating drought. People without water turn desperate and violent. Villagers in Rajasthan last year attacked the food corporation godowns. Worse may be coming. With man refusing to control pollution(America, the world's greatest polluter refuses to cooperate with other countries) the world is getting hotter. This means that the great ice shelves (weighing billions of tonnes) of the Antarctic are collapsing. We cannot even imagine the dangerous consequences. Last century, sea levels in Venice rose by one step of a staircase. This century they are expected to rise by five steps. An additional cause for Venice's sinking is the draining of underground water table due to industrialisation. The water table in our cities has also been going lower and lower. When ocean level rises, Tuvalu in the Pacific Ocean will be the first to go under the waves. Citizens of that country are already migrating to New Zealand. Will citizens of Maldives crowd into Kerala ? Will another mass migration from Bangladesh turn West Bengal upside down ?</p> <p><b>Answer the given questions briefly :</b></p> <p>(a) What is the major crisis being faced by our country today ?  (b) Which country is considered the worst in this respect ? Why ?  (c) In which city did the sea levels rise by one step of a staircase ?  (d) Why is that city sinking ?  (e) What is happening to the water table in the cities ?  (f) Citizens of which island have started migrating to New Zealand ?  (g) What was happening in most of India when there was a drought in Rajasthan ?  (h) What will happen to Venice by 2100 A.D. ?</p>	8
2	<p><b>Read the passage given below:</b></p> <p>Like millions of other teenagers my 14 years old daughter Kitty is often to be found on sofa, laptop on her knees, checking facts for the essay she's writing. The TV is on and occasionally she scrolls through Facebook. She sends SMSs, makes call on her mobile and takes her I-pod headset on and off.</p> <p>To me and to most of other parents this seems an impossible way to work. How can you think with all the noise ? We yell. Homework used to be something to be done in silence with all the distractions firmly removed. Yet for Kitty and her peers this is normal. The question a lot of experts are now asking is – how is this way of working affecting their brains ?</p> <p>Kitty and her friends are not the only ones exposed daily to terabytes of information. Research shows that office workers are interrupted every three minutes by their phones, computers or colleagues. Self-styled road warriors are permanently reachable through their mobiles while they simultaneously (and illegally) drive, talk and listen to the radio. Some feel silence and undivided attention have become the most precious commodities in the world.</p> <p>Mnemonic devices are tricks people use to help themselves remember information. Using visual images is common, such as picturing a flower to remember the name Lily. You may find a chunking technique useful, particularly when trying to remember numbers. For example, it is easier to remember a phone number with hyphens rather than trying to</p>	12

remember all of the digits together. Rhymes, alliteration and acronyms are other mnemonic devices that are useful in remembering information.

Adequate sleep also improves your ability to remember. You might think taking a nap may make you groggy, and so opt for a cup of coffee instead. However, sleep is essential for memory consolidation. A 2008 study by Sara Mednick and colleagues at the University of California -San Diego showed that people who had a short nap had better memory than those who took caffeine and stayed awake.

**2.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage answer the following questions briefly. (2x4)**

- (a) In what conditions did the older generation work ?
- (b) What have become the most precious commodities in the modern world ?
- (c) Which are the mnemonic devices used to remember information ?
- (d) Why is sleep essential for memory consolidation ?

**2.2 Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option: (1x4)**

- (a) The phrase 'precious commodity' means \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(para 3)
  - (i) a useful or valuable thing
  - (ii) a rare object
  - (iii) a worthless object
  - (iv) a special thing
- (b) Find the word from the following which means 'a method of improving the memory'. (para 4)
  - (i) terabytes
  - (ii) acronyms
  - (iii) mnemonic
  - (iv) precious
- (c) Pick out the word from the following which means the opposite of 'adequate' (para 5)
  - (i) sufficient
  - (ii) insufficient
  - (iii) enough
  - (iv) valuable
- (d) Find the word from the following which means 'groggy'. (para 5)
  - (i) confused
  - (ii) unsteady
  - (iii) chunking
  - (iv) reachable

**SECTION B : WRITING AND GRAMMAR**  
**(25 Marks)**

3 Share your views in the form of a letter to the editor of a local magazine in **100-120 words** on the topic, 'Circus-an obsolete way of entertainment in this digital age.' You are Amrit/Amrita, B-94 Malviya Nagar, Kanpur. 5

4 Using the hints given below develop a story in about 150-200 words : 10  
Sohan was utterly disappointed with his games teacher. He had told him to run around the basket ball court twenty times. Totally exhausted while taking the 13<sup>th</sup> circle something caught his attention towards the dark corner of the paper recycling unit and then.....

5 Read the following passage. Fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate options from the ones given below. Write the answers in your answer sheet against the correct blank numbers. Do not copy the whole passage. 3

The boy (a) \_\_\_\_\_ be just 11 years old. He is suffering from a genetic disorder, (b) \_\_\_\_\_ it has not stopped the child prodigy (c) \_\_\_\_\_ making a mark in chess variant inventions.

- (a) (i) might (ii) should (iii) could (iv) must
- (b) (i) yet (ii) and (iii) still (iv) but
- (c) (i) from (ii) for (iii) in (iv) of

6	<p><b>The following paragraph has not been edited. One word has been omitted in each line. Write the omitted word along with the word that comes before and the word which comes after against the blank number.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Before    Word    After</b></p> <p>The ancient classical dance Tamil                      (a)    _____    _____</p> <p>Nadu owes origin to the art                                      (b)    _____    _____</p> <p>of temple dancing during 19<sup>th</sup> century                      (c)    _____    _____</p> <p>in the reign the Mughals.                                      (d)    _____    _____</p>	4
7	<p><b>Read the conversation given below and complete the passage that follows:</b></p> <p>Teacher :        What is Buxar important for ?</p> <p>Sakshi :         I have heard of the great battle of Buxar. I know the names of the rulers also.</p> <p>Teacher :        Why didn't you say so before ?</p> <p>The teacher asked Sakshi (a) _____. Sakshi said that (b) _____. The teacher then asked _____.</p>	3
<p><b>SECTION C : LITERATURE</b> <b>(25 Marks)</b></p>		
<p><b>Read one of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:-</b></p>		
8	<p><i>This dream is all amiss interpreted :</i></p> <p><i>It was a vision fair and fortunate :</i></p> <p>(i)     What does 'amiss interpreted' mean ?</p> <p>(ii)    How had it been interpreted ?</p> <p>(iii)   What was the speaker's interpretation ?</p>	3
<p>OR</p>		
	<p><i>"Look upon my works, ye Mighty and despair!"</i></p> <p><i>Nothing beside remains.</i></p> <p>(a)     What does 'despair' mean ?</p> <p>(b)     Who are the 'Mighty' and why should they despair ?</p> <p>(c)     What is the irony here ?</p>	3
<p><b>Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each.</b></p>		
9(i)	<p>"Give me my robe, for I will go". Bring out the irony of Caesar's decision in the light of what happens at the Capitol immediately after he reaches the senate.</p>	2
9(ii)	<p>What did Hallock mean by "the affair was quite above board" ?</p>	2

9(iii)	Describe the nightmarish experiences of the mariners when the ship came to a halt.	2
9(iv)	"I have something to expiate". Explain with reference to the poem, 'Snake'.	2
	<b>Answer one of the following questions in about 80-100 words:</b>	
10	The struggle for power killed Caesar. Even in the modern world we find that all wars and social unrest are caused on account of some peoples' struggle for power. Based on the reading of the play, write a paragraph on how Cassius' thirst for power is responsible for all the violence and bloodshed in the play. <b>(80-100 words)</b>	4
	OR	
	Video games could be a wastage of time but they help children in setting the goals and achieving them. Elaborate the statement with reference to the story- ' Virtually True'.	4
	<b>Answer one of the following questions in about 150-200 words:</b>	
11	Why did the residents of the Annexe laugh at Mrs. Van Daan ?	10
	OR	
	Write a character sketch of Otto Frank.	10
	OR	
	How did Iliad, the great epic, amuse Helen ? What did Helen opine about German literature ? What fascinated her the most ?	10
	OR	
	Who was Mr. Vining ? What work had been assigned to him ?	10
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