

## Quarterly Test – 1

Date : _____	<b>English</b> (Set-1)	<b>Class</b>
Duration: 3 hrs. Max. Marks: 80		<b>XII</b>

### Section A - Reading

**1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: [12]**

1. The old lady was glad to be back at the block of flats where she lived. Her shopping had tired her and her basket had grown heavier with every step back home. In the lift, her thoughts were on lunch and a good rest; but when she got out at her own floor, both were forgotten in her sudden discovery that her front door was open. A perturbed state of mind stuffed her think tank to trace the chronological events before stepping out to shop. She was thinking that she must reprimand her daily maid the next morning for such a monstrous piece of negligence, when she remembered that she had gone shopping after her maid had left and she had turned both the keys in their locks. She walked slowly into the hall and at once noticed that all the room doors were open, yet following her regular practice she had shut them before going out. Looking into the drawing room, she saw a scene of confusion on her writing desk.
2. It was as clear as daylight burglars had forced an entry in her absence. Her first impulse was to go round all the rooms looking for the thieves, but then she decided that at her age it might be more prudent to have someone with her, so she went to fetch the porter from the basement. By this time her legs were beginning to tremble, so she sat down and accepted a cup of very strong tea from the porter, while he telephoned the police. As soon as her composure was regained, she was ready to set off with the porter's assistance to search for any intruder who might be still lurking in her flat.
3. The old lady felt marginally relieved with the physical assistance of the porter in managing to investigate the burglar's attempt to plunder with noticeable facts. Though uncertain, with an apprehensive alarm of burglar's existence in the premises, she kept her courage and willpower intact.
4. They went through the rooms, being careful to touch nothing, as they did not want to hinder the police in their search for fingerprints. The chaos was inconceivable. She had lived in the flat for thirty years and was a veritable magpie at hoarding; and it seemed as though everything she possessed had been tossed out and turned over and over. At least sorting out the things she should have discarded years ago, was now being made easier for her. Soon a police inspector arrived with a constable and she told them of her discovery of the ransacked flat. It took negligible time for investigation agency to step into the crime site with vigilant eyes. The inspector began to look for fingerprints, while the constable checked that the front door locks had not been forced, thereby proving that the burglars had either used skeleton keys or entered through the balcony.
5. There was no trace of fingerprints, but the inspector found a dirty red bundle that contained jewellery which the old lady said was not hers. So their entry into this flat was apparently not the burglars' first job that day and they must have looted elsewhere too. The inspector then asked the lady to try to check what was missing from her flat and advised her not to stay alone in the flat for a few nights. The old lady was reluctant in approaching someone to stay with her for a couple of nights. She thought that he was fussy creature, but since the porter agreed with him, she rang up her daughter and asked for her help in what she described as a little spot of bother.

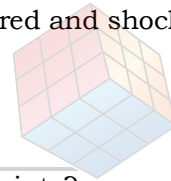
**1.1 On the basis of your understanding of the passage answer each of the following questions:** **[5×1=5]**

- (a) The old lady was glad to be back at her flat because \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) she lived there. (ii) she was extremely tired.  
 (iii) she wanted to have lunch and rest. (iv) both (ii) and (iii)
- (b) She forgot all about lunch and rest because \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) she discovered that her front door was ajar.  
 (ii) a perturbed state of mind stuffed her think tank.  
 (iii) she saw all the room doors were open.  
 (iv) none of the above
- (c) Inside her drawing room she saw because \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) all the room doors open.  
 (ii) her maid had left.  
 (iii) a scene of confusion on her writing desk.  
 (iv) a monstrous piece of negligence.
- (d) It was obvious that burglars had entered \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) her front door was open.  
 (ii) she had turned both the keys in their locks.  
 (iii) all the room doors were open and there was a mess on her writing desk.  
 (iv) all of the above.
- (e) Her legs were beginning to tremble because \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) she was scared. (ii) she was old.  
 (iii) she was tired. (iv) she was old, tired and shocked.

**1.2 Answer the following questions briefly.**

**[7×1=7]**

- (a) Why was the old lady surprised to find her front door open?  
 (b) Why did she go to the basement?  
 (c) What did the police inspector find while searching for fingerprints?  
 (d) What was the old lady advised to do?  
 (e) Give a synonym of the word reprimand. (Para 1)  
 (f) Explain 'a veritable magpie at hoarding.' (Para 5)  
 (g) Give an antonym of the word bother. (Para 5)



**2. Read the passage carefully.**

**[10]**

- The monsoon is such a welcome respite from the scorching summer thanks to the overcast sky, gentle rain and lush greenery all around. Almost all of us love to savour spicy and crunchy food items such as fritters (pakoras) and chaats like panipuri, sevpuri teamed with cutting chai as the rainwater lashes against the window pane. However, the season also brings along a lots of diseases such as dengue, malaria, conjunctivitis, typhoid, viral fever, pneumonia, gastrointestinal disturbances, diarrhea, food poisoning, cholera, cough and cold and jaundice due to bacteria in the environment. The Challenge lies in going about your daily routine without falling ill. If you suffer from low immunity, you are at a higher risk of contracting these diseases. However, the right dietary tips can strengthen your immunity and help you stay hale and hearty.
- Due to the humid climate, you may not feel too thirsty and consume just one litre of water every day. But you need to be well hydrated as sweat doesn't evaporate quickly in monsoon. Consequently, this prevents the body from releasing heat. So consume a lot of water as it helps to flush out toxins from the body. Ensure that the water is clean, pure and safe to drink. Avoid aerated drinks; instead consume warm beverages such as green tea with holy basil leaves, ginger, pepper and honey as they have anti-bacterial properties. A bowl of hot

vegetable soup is also a good option. The hot beverages increase your body temperature (which will in turn give you warmth) while the ingredients will boost your immunity.

3. Consume fruits such as cherries, bananas, apples, pomegranates, plums, litchis and pears as they are packed with anti-oxidants and are rich in vitamin A, E, C and minerals. Vegetables such as cauliflower, potatoes, cluster beans, lady's finger, kidney beans, pigeon pea and sprouted grains get spoilt easily due to the humidity. So, they should be avoided. Opt for cooked or steamed veggies. Avoid salads as they comprise raw vegetables that contain active bacteria which lead to various infections and affect the body's immunity. Avoid strong smelling or extra sweet fruits such as mangoes and jackfruit that attract flies as their excess intake can cause skin irritation and stomach ache. It's also important to store vegetables the right way during the rains. Do not wash the veggies thoroughly before storing, as the moisture will attract pathogenic fungus. These bacteria can spread to other susceptible food items as well, making them unhygienic. Instead, pat dry and store separate food items in different containers. Buy them in limited portions and use them as soon as possible.
4. Dehydration makes your hair brittle and scanty. So hydrate yourself. Zinc and iron help to keep your tresses healthy and beautiful. Consume nuts, eggs and walnuts to maintain hair strength. Walnuts are rich in biotin and vitamin E, which are excellent antioxidants. Proteins are important for hair strength too. So add curd to your diet, as it is a great source of protein. Amla juice, oranges and other citrus foods are rich in vitamin C. Vitamin C keeps your hair strong as it helps in production of collagen that among other things strengthens the hair capillaries (ensuring proper nutrient supply to our hair). Also, ensure that you wash your locks on alternate days and cover them well during the monsoon. Dried apricots, roasted sunflower seeds and lentils are better foods to consume during monsoon than other iron-rich foods which are susceptible to microbial attack. Do not forget to eat yummy corn on cob as corn is also rich in iron and zinc.
5. So, the secret to enjoy the rains, without the fear of affecting your health is to go light on eating. Have a safe and healthy monsoon.
- 2.1** On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary - minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. **[5]**
- 2.2** Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. **[5]**

### Section B - Writing

3. You are Amit/Amita. You have planned a week summer camp for the children of your group housing society at Dwarka, New Delhi. Draft a notice for the society's notice board stating the objectives of the course and giving its necessary details in not more than 50 words. **[4]**

**OR**

Aman, your cousin plans to dispose his Hundya Creata s he is relocating abroad. Draft a suitable advertisement for him giving all details in not more than 50 words.

4. The rise in Delhi Metro is comfortable and convenient. Of late you have noticed people jumping the que, playing loud music inside the compartment quarreling, which cause discomfort to other passengers and hamper the reputation of the Metro on the whole. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily giving views on the need to observe metro manners in not more than 150 words. You are Raman/Ramani of Janakpuri, New Delhi. **[6]**

**OR**

The Board Examination of class XII is not the end of the ordeal! To get admission in a good college and a course of one's choice is quite difficult as the cut off percentage in good colleges rise every year. Average students hardly find an opening. As Rina/Rohit write a letter to the editor of a leading national daily highlighting the above problem in not more than 150 words.

5. You are Mohan/Mohana, you are deeply perturbed by the growing religious intolerance in India. You feel this will weaken the unity harmony and the democratic fiber of our country.

Write a speech to be delivered in the morning assembly on the importance of upholding the secular nature in about 200 words. **[10]**

6. Media's role in sensationalizing news, molding public opinion and moral policing is controversial and disconcerting. Write an article in not more than 200 words for a newspaper. You are Madhav/Madhavi. **[10]**

### Section C - Literature

7. **Read the two extract given below and answer the following questions briefly:** **[8×1=8]**
- (I) *"... but soon  
put that though away, and  
looked out at young  
trees sprinting, the merry children spilling out of their homes."* **[4×1=4]**
- (a) What though does the poet put away? Why?  
(b) What does the "young tree" symbolize?  
(c) Name the poetic device used in "children spilling..."?  
(d) Name the poem and the poet.
- (II) *"The bag was his. The eanister belongs to the man who owns the tea shop."* **[4×1=4]**
- (a) Identify the lesson.  
(b) Whose bag is being referred to?  
(c) What bag was it?  
(d) What is the significance of the statement 'the bag was his'?
8. **Answer any 5 of the following questions in about 30-40 words.** **[5×2=10]**
- (a) What does the poet wish for the children of the 'elementary school classroom in a slum'?  
(b) What did M Hamel tell the class about French Language?  
(c) Who is Savita? What is ironical about her present and future? (Lost Spring)  
(d) Explain the imageries of the sprinting trees and merry children in highlighting the ideas of ideas and age and death in the poem "My Mother at Sixty Six".  
(e) How did the villagers react to the news of discontinuation of French Language in Alsace and Lorraine?  
(f) How id the Maharaja save his throne after he had refused to grant the British officer's wish to kill a tiger?  
(g) What are most of the bangle-makers ignorant of? What would happen if law were enforced strictly? (Lost Spring)
9. Explain how the paradoxes of the society are rightly portrayed in the lesson the 'Lost Spring.' **[6]**
10. Franz undergoes a change of perception about M. Hamel and his school on the last day. "First Impression may not always be the last impression." Write an article in about 150 words on the above statement based on your reading of the story "The Last Lesson." **[6]**



## Hints/Solutions to Quarterly Test – 1

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Duration: 3 hrs. Max. Marks: 80	(Set-1)	<b>XII</b>

- 1.1** (a) (iv) (b) (i)  
(c) (iii) (d) (iv)  
(e) (iv)
- 1.2** (a) The old lady surprised to find her front door open because she remembered that she had turned both the keys in their locks after her maid had left.  
(b) She went to the basement to seek help from the porter because she through it wasn't safe for her to look if there was anybody hiding in her house all by herself.  
(c) The police inspector found a dirty red bundle that combined jewellery which proved that the robbers had entered her flat after they had looted some place.  
(d) The old lady advised not to stay alone in her flat for some nights.  
(e) Reprimand means scold  
(f) 'A veritable magpie at hoarding.' Means the old lady was a real junk collected and had all useless stuff in her flat.  
(g) The antonym for bother is calm.
- 2.1** Note Making  
Title = 1 mark  
Abbreviations = 1 mark  
Notes = 2 marks
- 2.2** Summary  
Expression = 2 marks
- 3.** Notice  
Format and content = 2 Marks  
Expression, accuracy and fluency = 2 Marks
- OR**
- Classified Advertisement  
Content = 3 Marks  
Expression, accuracy and fluency = 1 Mark
- 4.** Letter to the Editor  
Format = 1 Mark  
Content = 3 Marks  
Grammatical accuracy = 1 Mark  
Logic and coherence of ideas = 1 Mark
- OR**
- Letter to the Editor  
Format = 1 Mark  
Content = 3 Marks  
Grammatical accuracy = 1 Mark

Logic and coherence of ideas = 1 Mark

**5. Speech**

Format = 1 marks

Content = 4 marks

Grammatical accuracy = 2.5 marks

Logic and coherence = 2.5 marks

**6. Article**

Format = 1 mark

Content = 1 mark

Grammatical accuracy = 2.5 marks

Logic and coherence = 2.5 marks

- 7. (I)** (a) The thought of the mother's impending death because it made her feel helpless and devastated.
- (b) The 'young trees' symbolize vigour and vitality – hallmark of young. The ageing, sick mother is devoid of both.
- (c) Metaphor
- (d) 'My Mother at Sixty Six' by Kamala Das
- (II)** (a) Lost Spring – Stories of stolen childhood.
- (b) Saheb's rag picking bag is being referred to.
- (c) The bag in which he collected rubbish, the rag picker's bag.
- (d) Saheb lost his freedom – he worked in a tea stall and had a master, earlier he picked rag and was a free bird.
- 8. (a)** The poet pleads with the people in power and the authorities to liberate the slum children from the squalor and filth, provide with opportunities and impart relevant education. So that they can rewrite their fate.
- (b) M Hamel exhibited his patriotism by eulogizing the French language. He called it the most beautiful, the dearest and the most logical of all languages in the world language is integral to one's identity, hence a key to one's prism in time of enslavement.
- (c) Savita is the small girl in a drab pink dress. Her hands work like the tongs of a machine in churning out bangles, the importance of which she is ignorant about. By the time she will learn about their significance in a married Indian woman's life she would have gone blind.
- (d) The images of the 'Young trees sprinting' and "cherry children spilling out of their homes" intensify the ageing and decaying of the mother. The youthful vigor and profusion of life seen outside the car is in sharp contrast with morbid atmosphere inside the car where the mother is an embodiment of death.
- (e) The villagers were sorry and repentant for having neglected their learning of the mother tongue. They were in full attendance in M. Hamel's Last Lesson to pay their tribute to their departing mother tongue.
- (f) The Maharaja after consulting his Dewan orders fifty diamond rings from a British jeweler in Calcutta and send to the Duraisani in the hope that she would keep one or two. But she wrote a letter of thanks and kept all the rings. The king incurred a loss of three lakhs to save his kingdom from the wrath of the British.
- (g) The bangle makers of Firozabad are ignorant of the fact that child labour is a crime and the defaulters can be punished. If the law is enforced strictly all those illegally employed can be set free from the clutches of deprivation and ignominy.
- 9.** 'Lost Spring' explicitly describes the pathetic conditions of the children in our country who are condemned to a life of poverty and exploitation because of apathy and regressive.
- 10. ❖** Franz hated his cranky teacher and loathed studies.
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- ❖ He bunked school and wasted his time on the fields just to stay away from Hamel and his ruler.
- ❖ On the day of the last lesson he was strangely overcome with pity and sorrow for his teacher.
- ❖ He underwent a change of perception for the old man and did not want Hamel to leave.
- ❖ Circumstances alter man's perspective.
- ❖ Situation and condition determines man's behavior and actions.
- ❖ One may appear to be rude and insensitive on one occasion but extremely caring and sensitive on another.
- ❖ Human relationship is complex hence reaction and behavior vary.
- ❖ Hamel is a classic example of how an impression about a person can be totally renewed.



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