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Terminal Examination (2025-26)
Standard - XII

Subject : English

Marks : 50

Date : 10.10.2025

Time : 8.30 am to 11.00 am

Section A: Prose

Q.1 A. Read the following extract and complete the activities given below. (12)

"As I know all other things. Guru Nayak, listen carefully to what I have to say. Your village is two days journey due north of this town. Take the next train and be gone. I see once again great danger to your life if you go from home." He took out a pinch of sacred ash and held it to him. "Rub it on your forehead and go home. Never travel southward again, and you will live to be a hundred."

"Why should I leave home again?" the other said reflectively. "I was only going away now and then to look for him and to choke out his life if I met him." He shook his head regretfully. "He has escaped my hands. I hope at least he died as he deserved." "Yes," said the astrologer. "He was crushed under a lorry. The other looked gratified to hear it.

The place was deserted by the time the astrologer picked up his articles and put them into his bag. The green shaft was also gone, leaving the place in darkness and silence. The stranger had gone off into the night, after giving the astrologer a handful of coins.

It was nearly midnight when the astrologer reached home. His wife was waiting for him at the door and demanded an explanation. He flung the coins at her and said "Count them. One man gave all that."

"Twelve and a half annas", she said, counting. She was overjoyed. "I can buy some jaggery and coconut tomorrow. The child has been asking for sweets for so many days now. I will prepare some nice stuff for her."

"The swine has cheated me! He promised me a rupee," said the astrologer. She looked up at him. "You look worried. What is wrong? Nothing." After dinner, sitting on the pyol, he told her "Do you know a great load is gone from me today? I thought I had the blood of a man on my hands all these years. That was the reason why I ran away from home, settled here, and married you. He is alive."

She gasped. "You tried to kill him!"

"Yes, in our village, when I was a silly youngster. We drank, gambled, and quarreled badly one day - why think of it now? Time to sleep," he said, yawning, and stretched himself on the pyol.

A1. Global Understanding.

2

State whether the statements are true or false. Correct the false statements.

1. The astrologer was relieved and slept peacefully.

2. Guru Nayak was happy to hear that the man he was searching for had died under a lorry.
3. The astrologer warned Guru Nayak that he must never travel northward again.
4. The astrologer was satisfied because he received more money than expected.

A2. Complex Factual.

2

Match the characters in column A with the adjectives of column B.

Column A	Column B
1 Guru Nayak	a Relieved
2 Astrologer's Wife	b Pampered
3 The Astrologer	c Agitated
4 Astrologer's Daughter	d Demanding

A3. Inference/Interpretation/Analysis.

2

Interpret the wife's excitement about buying sweets for child. What does it suggest about astrologer's family?

A4. Personal Response.

2

Do you believe people should rely on astrology to guide their lives or should they depend more on their own efforts and decisions? Why?

A5. Language Study.

2

1. Pick the correct indirect speech form of the sentence: "Rub it on your forehead and go home," said the astrologer.
 - a) The astrologer told him rub it on his forehead and go home.
 - b) The astrologer advised him to rub it on his forehead and go home.
 - c) The astrologer said rub it on your forehead and go home.
 - d) The astrologer asked that rub it on his forehead and go home.
2. Choose the correct passive voice form of the sentence: "The astrologer picked up his articles."
 - a) His articles were picked up by the astrologer.
 - b) His articles have been picked up by the astrologer.
 - c) His articles are picked up by the astrologer.
 - d) His articles will be picked up by the astrologer.

A6. Vocabulary.

2

Pick out the synonyms from the passage for following words.

- i) Empty
- ii) Satisfied
- iii) Delighted
- iv) Deceived

B1. Do as directed. (2)

1. Man can express a very wide range of ideas and emotions through speech.
(Rewrite using 'be able to')
2. It has been a very long journey.
(Rewrite as an exclamatory sentence)

B2. Spot the error. (1)

Neither of the students have completed their assignments.

C. Summary Writing. (3)

Read the following passage carefully and write a brief summary capturing the main ideas.

Education is the key to personal and social development. It helps individuals gain knowledge, develop critical thinking, and acquire essential skills for life. A well-educated population contributes to the progress of a nation by promoting innovation, understanding, and responsible citizenship. In today's world, both formal and informal education play an important role. While schools and colleges provide structured learning, reading, online courses, and discussions help develop curiosity and creativity. Governments, teachers, and parents must work together to ensure that education is accessible to all, so that every individual can reach their full potential.

Section B: Poetry

Q.2 A. Read the following extract and complete the activities given below. (10)

Is anybody happier because you passed his way?
Does anyone remember that you spoke to him today?
This day is almost over, and its toiling time is through;
Is there anyone to utter now a kindly word of you?

Did you give a cheerful greeting to the friend who came along?
Or a churlish sort of "Howdy" and then vanish in the throng?
Were you selfish pure and simple as you rushed along the way,
Or is someone mighty grateful for a deed you did today?

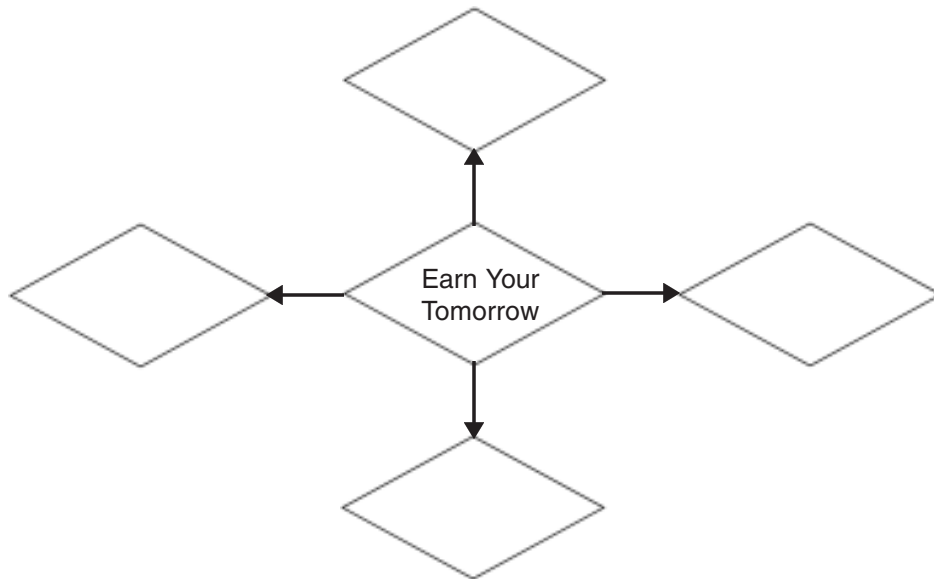
Can you say tonight, in parting with the day that's slipping fast,
That you helped a single brother of the many that you passed?
Is a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said;
Does a man whose hopes were fading now with courage look ahead?

Did you waste the day, or lose it, was it well or sorely spent?
Did you leave a trail of kindness or a scar of discontent?
As you close your eyes in slumber do you think that God would say,
You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today?

A1. Global Understanding.

2

Complete the web diagram with the ways in which we can 'earn our tomorrow' according to the poem.



A2. Inference/Interpretation.

2

Do you think the idea of “earning your tomorrow” can change a person’s attitude towards life? Explain.

A3. Personal Response.

2

How does helping others add value to your life? Explain with an example from your own life.

A4. Poeti Device.

2

Identify the rhyme scheme of the **third stanza** of the given poem and mention the rhyming words.

A5. Poetic Creativity.

2

Write one stanza on the theme of helping others and making life meaningful. Do **NOT** copy lines from the poem. Make it your own creation.

B. Write an appreciation of the given poem considering the following point

(4)

- About the poem/poet/title
- Theme
- Poetic devices, language, style
- Value, message
- Your opinion about the poem

Weavers, weaving at break of day,
 Why do you weave a garment so gay?
 Blue as the wing of a halcyon wild,
 We weave the robes of a new-born child.
 Weavers, weaving at fall of night,
 Why do you weave a garment so bright?
 Like the plumes of a peacock, purple and green,
 We weave the marriage-veils of a queen.
 Weavers, weaving solemn and still,
 What do you weave in the moonlight chill?
 White as a feather and white as a cloud,
 We weave a dead man's funeral shroud

Section C: Writing Skills

Q.3 Write down ANY TWO writing skills. (8)

- Write an essay of 150–200 words expanding the idea:
 "Rome was not built in a day." **4**
- You want to apply for Bachelors course in Computer Science. Write a statement of purpose for the same.
 Include your academic background, interests, achievements, and career goals. **4**
- Your school organized a **Career Guidance Programme** in the campus. Write a **report** for the school magazine, including the purpose, participants, activities, and outcomes. **4**

Section D: Novel

Q.4 A. Match the pairs with suitable options. (2)

Column A (Type of Novel)	Column B (Characteristics)
A. Historical Novel	i. Told through letters or diary entries
B. Epistolary Novel	ii. Depicts the realistic everyday life of people
C. Bildungsroman Novel	iii. Set in historical times and events
D. Realistic Novel	iv. Focuses on the psychological and moral growth of a character

B. Pick out the odd element from the group. (2)

- Charles Dickens, Miguel de Cervantes, Thomas Hardy, William Shakespeare
- R.K. Narayan, Mulk Raj Anand, Raja Rao, Arun Joshi
- Theme, Plot, Settings, Stage
- Charlotte Bronte, Jane Austen, George Eliot, Daniel Defoe

Q.5 Write ANY TWO.

(6)

- a) Describe the Half-Yearly Report Day. How did it reflect the attitude of students and the school environment? **3**
- b) What are the central themes of “To Sir, With Love”? Explain with examples. **3**
- c) Describe **Miss Philips**’s role in the question answer session. **3**

