



Estd. 1861

# BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE FIRST TERM EXAMINATION (2024-25) CLASS - X ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Maximum Marks: 80

Time allowed: Two hours

Answers to this Paper must be written on the answer sheet provided separately.

You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Attempt all FIVE questions.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].  
You are advised to spend not more than 30 minutes in answering Question 1 and  
20 minutes in answering Question 2.

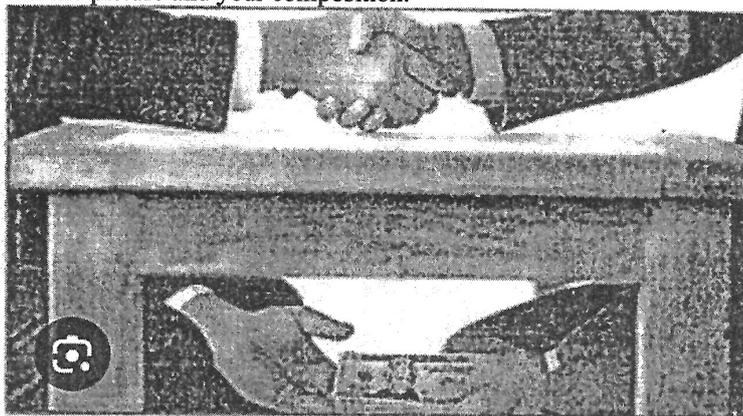
## Question 1

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question)

Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following:-

[20]

- Write a story based on the theme, "Responsibilities help one grow mature at a tender age".
- 'Material richness makes you outstanding in the society.' Express your views either for or against the statement.
- Describe the birthday party of your sibling that was organised by you as a surprise for him.
- You had gone to a hill station to spend your vacation along with your family but unfortunately you experienced a landslide there. Narrate your experience and tell how you played a significant role in saving your family.
- Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestion from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



## QUESTION 2 ( Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question)

[10]

Select any one of the following:-

- Write a letter to the editor of a reputed newspaper, voicing your concern about the rising number of cases of abduction in your locality.
- You live in a hostel where you share your room with someone but due to some differences, you are not able to get along with your roommate. Write a letter to your father describing your experience.

## QUESTION 3

- Your school is organising a debate competition on 14th November on the occasion of Children's Day. Write a notice to be displayed on the school notice board informing the students about the competition. [5]
- Write an email to the Principal of a neighbouring school requesting him/her to send two English teachers to judge the elocution of classes 9 and 10. [5]

## QUESTION 4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:-

One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all. And sixty cents of it was in pennies. Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied. Three times Della counted it. One dollar and eighty-seven cents. And the next day would be Christmas.

There was clearly nothing to do but flop down on the shabby little couch and howl. So Della did it, which instigates the moral reflection that life is made up of sobs, sniffles, and smiles, with sniffles predominating.

While the mistress of the home is gradually subsiding from the first stage to the second, take a look at the home. A furnished flat at \$8 per week. It did not exactly beggar description, but it certainly had that word on the lookout for the mendicancy squad.

In the vestibule below was a letter-box into which no letter would go, and an electric button from which no mortal

Python  
Robotics & AI



JAVA  
Comp. Applications



Experts' Institute  
8-D, Kutchery Road. Ph:9415368884

EXPERTS'  
INSTITUTE



finger could coax a ring. Also appertaining thereunto was a card bearing the name "Mr. James Dillingham Young." The "Dillingham" had been flung to the breeze during a former period of prosperity when its possessor was being paid \$30 per week. Now, when the income was shrunk to \$20, the letters of "Dillingham" looked blurred, as though they were thinking seriously of contracting to a modest and unassuming D. But whenever Mr. James Dillingham Young came home and reached his flat above he was called "Jim" and greatly hugged by Mrs. James Dillingham Young, already introduced to you as Della which is all very good.

Della finished her cry and attended to her cheeks with the powder rag. She stood by the window and looked out dully at a grey cat walking a grey backyard. Tomorrow would be Christmas Day, and she had only \$1.87 with which to buy Jim a present. She had been saving every penny she could for months, with this result. Twenty dollars a week doesn't go far. Expenses had been greater than she had calculated. They always are. Only \$1.87 to buy a present for Jim. Her Jim. Many a happy hour she had spent planning for something nice for him. Something fine and rare and sterling—something just a little bit near to being worthy of the honor of being owned by Jim.

There was a pier-glass between the windows of the room. Perhaps you have seen a pier-glass in an \$8 flat. A very thin and very agile person may, by observing his reflection in a rapid sequence of longitudinal strips, obtain a fairly accurate conception of his looks. Della, being slender, had mastered the art.

Suddenly she whirled from the window and stood before the glass. Her eyes were shining brilliantly, but her face had lost its color within twenty seconds. Rapidly she pulled down her hair and let it fall to its full length.

Now, there were two possessions of the James Dillingham Youngs in which they both took a mighty pride. One was Jim's gold watch that had been his father's and his grandfather's. The other was Della's hair. Had the Queen of Sheba lived in the flat across the airshaft, Della would have let her hair hang out the window some day to dry just to depreciate Her Majesty's jewels and gifts. Had King Solomon been the janitor, with all his treasures piled up in the basement, Jim would have pulled out his watch every time he passed, just to see him pluck at his beard from envy.

So now Della's beautiful hair fell about her, rippling and shining like a cascade of brown waters. It reached below her knee and made itself almost a garment for her. And then she did it up again nervously and quickly. Once she faltered for a minute and stood still while a tear or two splashed on the worn red carpet.

On went her old brown jacket; on went her old brown hat. With a whirl of skirts and with the brilliant sparkle still in her eyes, she fluttered out the door and down the stairs to the street.

(i) For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the option provided: [2]

- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1). Parsimony  |               |
| a). Stinginess | c). Fondness  |
| b). Boldness   | d). Happiness |
| 2). Faltered   |               |
| a). hesitated  | c). Pondered  |
| b). fainted    | d). stopped   |

(ii) Which word in the passage means the opposite of the word 'Pretentious'? [1]

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| a). Predominating | c). unassuming |
| b). appertaining  | d). Sterling   |

(iii) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:-

- 1). How were the pennies saved? [2]
- 2). What instigates the moral reflection in the life of Della? [2]
- 3). Describe the letter-box in the vestibule below. [2]
- 4). What were the two possessions of the James Dillingham Youngs in which they both took a mighty pride? [2]
- 5). How much did Della have to buy Jim a present? [1]

(iii) In not more than 50 words, describe the effort and sacrifice of Della for Jim. [8]

**QUESTION 5**

Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

Example: fell.(0)

A small child \_ (0) (fall) down and \_ (1)(begin) to cry. Although he \_ (2) (injure) himself badly yet he \_ (3) (cry) hard because of fear. As soon as he \_ (4) (see) his mother, he \_ (5) (run) to her to \_ (6) (complain) and to \_ (7)(share) his bad experience. When his mother \_ (8) (hear) about the incident, she hugged him.

I. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words: [4]

- a). It is sorrowful that the school going children get addicted \_\_\_\_ drugs.
- b). Do you agree \_\_\_\_ the offer?
- c). I am sure that you agree \_\_\_\_ me.
- d). It has been a long time \_\_\_\_ we met last.
- e). I have been teaching in this school \_\_\_\_ ten years.
- f). We long \_\_\_\_ prosperity.
- g). One must avail oneself \_\_\_\_ the opportunity that comes to the door.
- h).It is difficult to put up \_\_\_\_ his obnoxious behaviour.

II. Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using and, but or so. Choose the correct options. [4]

- 1). He was going for a morning walk. He met with an accident.
  - a). He was going for a morning walk as he met with an accident.
  - b). He was going for a morning walk since he met with an accident.
  - c). While going for a morning walk, he met with an accident.
  - d). While going for a morning walk, he meets with an accident.
- 2). He saw the principal on round. He immediately ran to his class.
  - a). As soon as he saw the principal on round than he ran to his class.
  - b). No sooner does he saw the principal on round than he ran to his class.
  - c). No sooner did he see the principal on round than he ran to his class.
  - d). As soon as he sees the principal on round, he ran to his class.
- 3). She must not misbehave. She will be dismissed from the job.
  - a). Unless she doesn't misbehave, she will not be dismissed from the job.
  - b). Unless she misbehaves, she will be dismissed from the job.
  - c). If she misbehaves, she will be dismissed from the job.
  - d). She will be dismissed from the job if she misbehaved.
- 4). I met a child. He was crying and looking for his mother on a footpath.
  - a). I met a child who was crying and looking for his mother on a footpath.
  - b). I met a child with crying and looking for his mother on a footpath.
  - c). I met a child who is crying and looking for his mother on a footpath.
  - d). I met a child who had been crying and looking for his mother on a footpath.

III. Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. Choose the correct options. [8]

- 1). Who can bear to feel himself forgotten? (Begin with : No one.....)
  - a). No one wants to be forgotten.
  - b). No one wanted to be forgotten.
  - c). No one could bear to feel himself forgotten.
  - d). No one can bear to feel himself forgotten.
- 2). She performed well and got a lot of appreciation. (Rewrite without using 'and').
  - a). She get a lot of appreciation when she performed well.
  - b). Having performed well, she got a lot of appreciation.
  - c). She performed well for she got a lot of appreciation.
  - d). Having performed well, she gets a lot of appreciation.
- 3). If you do not satisfy the judge with proper evidences, he will punish you. (Begin with: Unless....)
  - a). Unless you satisfy the judge with proper evidences, he will not punish you.
  - b). Unless you not satisfy the judge with proper evidences, he will not punish you.
  - c). Unless you satisfy the judge with proper evidences, he will punish you.
  - d). Unless you not satisfy the judge with proper evidences, he will punish you.
- 4). It is too expensive for me. (Remove 'too')
  - a). It is so expensive for me that I cannot afford it.
  - b). It is so expensive that no one can afford it.
  - c). It is too expensive that I cannot afford it.
  - d). It is so expensive that I cannot afford it.
- 5). As soon as she entered the class, she began to teach. (Begin with : No sooner....)
  - a). No sooner did she enter the class than she begin to teach.
  - b). No sooner did she enter the class, she began to teach.
  - c). No sooner did she enter the class than she began to teach.
  - d). No sooner did she enter the class than she begun to teach.
- 6). If it were not for the corruption, I would have got the job. (Begin with : But ...)
  - a). But not for the corruption, I would have got the job.
  - b). But there was no corruption, I would have got the job.
  - c). But for the corruption, I would have got the job.
  - d). But for the corruption, I would not have got the job.
- 7). I appreciate his obedience. (change noun into adjective)
  - a). I appreciate that he is obedient.
  - b). I appreciate that he is obedience.
  - c). I appreciate for his obedience nature.
  - d). I appreciate that he is obedient nature.
- 8). Did you like the event? (change into passive voice)
  - a). Is the event liked by you? c). Was the event liked by you?
  - b). Is the event like by you? d). Was the event like by you?

\*\*\*\*\*

