

St. Mary's Convent Inter College, Prayagraj  
Preliminary Examination 2024 - 25

Time : 2hr.

Class- 10

M.M. : 80

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**  
(ENGLISH PAPER – 1)

Name : ..... Roll No. ....Date : .....

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 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]

- Describe the changes you would like to see in your home town in the next 10 years.
- Relate an incident or an experience of yours to bring out the truth of the saying, "Don't judge a book by its cover."
- 'Man is born free, but binds himself in chains'. Express your views either for or against this statement.
- Write a story titled, 'Delayed online delivery.'
- Study the given picture below. Write a story, description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions 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.)

Select any one of the following:

- Write a letter to your parents, expressing your desire to join a sports college instead of a regular college, after you pass out from school. Give reasons why you desire to do so.



b. There has recently been a number of robberies in your locality. Write a letter to the officer in charge of your local police station, giving available information and requesting him to look into the matter.

### Question 3:

a. As a Sports Captain of your school, write a notice for the notice board inviting students of classes 6 to 12 to give their names for various sports events to be held on the occasion of the Annual Sports Day of your school. [5]

b. Write an email to a famous sports player from your city, requesting him/her to be the Guest of Honour at the Sports Meet. [5]

### Question 4:

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

The balloon took off quite slowly but, within minutes, they were high above the field. The spectators were still waving to them but soon they too were out of sight. It was Andy's first trip in a balloon and he felt nervous. Pete, his companion, knew all about balloons - he went up one every weekend if the weather was fine - but he was too busy to answer Andy's questions. "Just enjoy it," he said as they took off. "It's a wonderful experience." Andy was not sure. But the view was interesting. He passed the time trying to make out landmarks - villages, farms and rivers. Everything looked so different from the air. "Where are we heading?" he asked Pete. Pete pointed towards the north. "That's our general direction for the moment," he said. "Unfortunately, this wind keeps pushing us towards those hills." He pointed to some mountains in the west, "There's nothing to worry about, though. I'll take the balloon higher"

A quarter of an hour later Pete was beginning to look worried too. They were close to some very thick clouds. "I don't like the look of these," he said. A few minutes later they were in the middle of the clouds and they could see nothing. Suddenly it was very cold. "I wasn't expecting weather like this," Pete said. "Well, let's have some coffee to warm us up." He poured out two cups and handed one to Andy. Andy needed a hot drink at that moment. "We're still going towards those mountains, aren't we?" he asked Pete. "Yes, but don't worry," Pete replied. "We'll go right over the top." They drifted on and on through the clouds. Every moment Andy expected the balloon to hit the side of the mountain. But it never happened. Suddenly they were out in the sunlight again. "The trouble is," Pete said, "I'm not exactly sure where we are now!"

Andy looked down. "Isn't that a farm down there?" he asked, pointing to some buildings. "Why don't we land and ask". Maybe they will be able to help us out and give us direction."

Pete hesitated. They were lost, but he did not want to ask for help. After all he was supposed to be experienced at going up in the balloon. For him to ask for directions would prove that he was lost. "All right," he said in the end.

A few minutes later, they made a perfect landing only a couple of hundred yards from the farmhouse. The farmer came out to greet them.

"You're a long way from home!" he said in answer to Pete's question. "Well, we'll think about that later. Come in and join us for tea. It isn't often that people come to visit us by balloon!"

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

1. Spectators

a. amazing people

b. onlookers

c. funny person

d. lonely people

2. Drifted

a. accumulate

b. bobbing slowly

c. gathered

d. floated

(ii) Which word in the passage means the opposite of the word **calm**. [1]

a. greet

b. nervous

c. ask

d. prove



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

- (a) Why was Andy nervous? [1]
- (b) Why was Pete beginning to look worried a quarter of an hour later? [2]
- (c) What did Pete and Andy do while in the midst of the clouds? [2]
- (d) What did Andy expect would happen? [2]
- (e) What problem did they face once they were out in the sunlight again? [2]

(iv) In not more than 50 words describe Andy and Pete's adventure. [8]

**Question 5:** [4]

i. 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.

We are shy because we (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (worry) about what others (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (may) think, or say about us. Just be yourself. Quit (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (try) too hard to impress people or be something you are not. Know what you stand for. If you are well behaved and speak rightly, you have nothing to be ashamed of. Initiate contact and conversation even at the risk of (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (reject). Instead of clamming up or (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (run) from the next difficult situation, see it as a chance to grow in social skills. Keep (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (try) and pushing and struggling, even if you don't know what your goal is. Keep (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (go). Your determination will (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (pay) off.

ii. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words.

- a. He is descendent..... a noble family.
- b. There is little satisfaction..... sitting idle.
- c. I am bent..... attending the meeting.
- d. He at last got the opportunity..... meet him.
- e. Ghee is sold..... eighty rupees per kg.
- f. I have no prejudice..... foreigners.
- g. The article is devoid..... truth.
- h. He is not familiar..... the new system.

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

- 1. Rustom made twelve runs. He was caught at the wicket. [4]
  - a. Rustom made twelve runs before he was caught at the wicket.
  - b. It wasn't before Rustom made twelve runs that he was caught behind the wicket.
  - c. It was Ruston, who was caught at the wicket when he made twelve runs
  - d. Rustom had almost made twelve runs before he was caught at the wicket.
- 2. He is wealthy. He is not happy
  - a. Even though he is wealthy, he is never happy.
  - b. Despite being wealthy, he is not being happy.
  - c. Even though he is wealthy, he is not happy.
  - d. He is wealthy therefore, he is not happy.
- 3. He is not a knave. He is not a fool.
  - a. He is neither a knave nor a fool.
  - b. He is neither knave now fool.
  - c. He is never been a knave nor been a fool.
  - d. He is not a knave, nor a fool.
- 4. Sam reads for pleasure. Sam reads for profit.
  - a. Sam reads for pleasure because of profit.
  - b. Sam reads for pleasure because for profit.
  - c. Sam reads for pleasure as well as profit
  - d. Sam read for pleasure as well as profit.



**iv. Choose the correct option to rewrite the following according to the instructions given after each sentence.** **[8]**

1. But for his timely help, the boy would have perished.

(Begin: Had he.....)

- a. Had he not helped on time, the boy would have perished.
- b. Had he not been helping on time, the boy would have perished.
- c. Had he not had help on time, the boy would have perished.
- d. Had he not helped on time, the boy would perish.

2. You will always remain in my thoughts.

(End.....forgotten.)

- a. You will in my thoughts, never be forgotten.
- b. You will never be forgotten.
- c. In my thoughts, you will not ever be forgotten.
- d. In my thought, you will never be forgotten.

3. She is the worthiest person in the town.

(Begin: No other.....)

- a. No other person in the town is as worthy as her.
- b. No other persons in the town are worthier than her.
- c. No other person in the town are worthy as her.
- d. No other person in the town is worthier as she,

4. The food is so pungent that I cannot eat it.

(Being: The food is too.....)

- a. The food is too pungent, so I cannot eat it.
- b. The food is too pungent to eat.
- c. The food is too pungent to be eaten by me.
- d. The food is too pungent that I cannot eat it

5. To live longer, you must avoid smoking.

(End.... live long.)

- a. You must avoid smoking, or else you will not live long.
- b. You must avoid smoking, you will not live long.
- c. You must avoid smoking for you will not live long
- d. You must avoid smoking, unless you will not live long

6. The oranges are too cheap to be fresh.

(Use:..... so..... that)

- a. The oranges are so cheap that they are fresh.
- b. The oranges are so cheap that they cannot be fresh.
- c. The oranges are so fresh that they must be expensive.
- d. Oranges are so fresh that they cannot be cheap.

7. Oh! That I had wings of a bird!

(Begin: I wish.....)

- a. I wish I had the wings of a bird.
- b. I wish we had the wings of a bird.
- c. I wish the wings of a bird.
- d. I wish I had the wings of birds.

8. As soon as he saw me, he started complaining.

(Begin: No sooner did.....)

- a. No sooner did he saw me than he started complaining.
- b. No sooner does he see me than he starts complaining.
- c. No sooner did he see me than he started complaining.
- d. No sooner did he see me when he started complaining.