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## 12<sup>th</sup> Std

### Govt. Public Exam Question Paper Question Pattern and Distribution of Marks

Part - I	One mark questions 20 Multiple choice questions - No choice	20 x 1 = 20
Part - II	Two mark questions 7 questions out of 10	7 x 2 = 14
Part - III	Three mark questions 7 questions out of 10	7 x 3 = 21
Part - IV	Five mark questions 7 questions out of 14 - Internal choice (or)	7 x 5 = 35
<b>Question Paper Contents</b>		
S. No	<b>Part - I One mark questions</b>	20 x 1 = 20
1 - 3	Synonyms	3 x 1 = 3
4 - 6	Antonyms	3 x 1 = 3
7 - 20	Foreign words Abbreviations and Acronyms Compound words British English & American English Idioms Clipped words / Unclipped words Blended words Sentence pattern Modal verb / Semi modal verb Prefix & Suffix Polite form Relative pronoun Linkers Prepositional phrase Plural form Definition of words Homophone Phrasal verbs Preposition Question tag Syllabification Correct spelling Correct combination words	14 x 1 = 14

		<b>Part II - Two mark questions</b>	7x2=14
21-26	<b>Section 1</b> : Poem appreciation (Any 4 out of 6)		4x2=8
27-30	<b>Section 2</b> : Grammar Exercises (Any 3 out of 4) 1. Active voice and Passive voice 2. Direct speech and Indirect speech 3. Reporting a dialogue 4. Conditional clause 5. Transformation of sentence (Simple / Compound / Complex) 6. Degrees of comparison		3x2=6
		<b>Part: III - Three mark questions</b>	7x3 = 21
31 - 33	<b>Section 1</b> : Explain with Reference to the Context (Any 2 out of 3)		2x3 = 6
34 - 36	<b>Section 2</b> : Prose Questions & Answers (Any 2 out of 3)		2x3 = 6
37 - 40	<b>Section 3</b> : Skill Based Questions (Any 3 out of 4) 1. Complete the Proverbs 2. Rearrange the Jumbled Words. 3. Describing a Process. 4. Dialogue Writing. 5. Expand the Headlines. 6. Drafting Notice. 7. Drafting email. 8. Non- Verbal Comprehension.		3x3 = 9
		<b>Part - IV - Five mark questions</b>	7x5=35
41 - 47	<b>Prose Paragraph</b> <b>Poem Paragraph</b> <b>Supplementary Reader Paragraph</b> Make Notes / Summarize the Passage <b>Letter Writing</b> Spot the Errors / Fill in the blanks Hints development General Paragraph Comprehension General Poem Comprehension Semantic Field Situational Dialogue		

## Govt. Public Exam Question Paper - March 2023

### ENGLISH

[Time Allowed : 3.00 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 90]

**Instructions:** (1) Check the question paper for fairness of printing. If there is any lack of fairness, inform the Hall Supervisor immediately.

(2) Use a **Blue or Black ink** pen to write and underline and pencil to draw diagrams.

### PART - I

**Note:** (i) Answer all the questions.

20 x 1 = 20

(ii) Choose the most appropriate answer from the given four alternatives and write both the option code and the corresponding answer for each question.

■ Choose the most appropriate synonyms of the words underlined in the following sentences.

1. One is **liable** to put in too much milk.

a) eager                      b) likely                      c) forced                      d) certain                      Ans: **b) likely**

2. .... Anna would say with an **impudent** smile.

a) disrespectful              b) indifferent              c) ungrateful              d) misleading              Ans: **a) disrespectful**

3. .... the end of such liberty would be universal **Chaos**.

a) confusion              b) mystery              c) failure              d) destruction              Ans: **a) confusion**

Choose the most appropriate antonyms of the underlined words in the following sentences.

4. We can't **appreciate** light if we haven't known darkness.

a) reduce                      b) forget                      c) neglect                      d) condemn                      Ans: **d) condemn**

5. There he was sitting in **splendour** on chair.

a) dejection                      b) simplicity                      c) shame                      d) laziness                      Ans: **b) simplicity**

6. In those days, they didn't have **sophisticated** heart surgery.

a) critical                      b) artificial                      c) primitive                      d) dangerous                      Ans: **c) primitive**

7. Replace the underlined idiom with its suitable meaning.

Raja betrayed his friend to **save his skin**.

a) avoid allergic reaction                      b) protect himself from difficulty  
c) help his suffering family                      d) receive a coveted award

Ans: **b) protect himself from difficulty**

8. Choose the suitable meaning for the idiom found in the following sentence.

The Finance Department should **get the ducks in a row** before the audit.

a) be well-connected                      b) be well-trained  
c) be well-advanced                      d) be well-organised                      Ans: **d) be well-organised**

9. Choose the word that can be placed after the word "wind" to form a compound word.

a) craft                      b) pane                      c) brake                      d) screen                      Ans: **d) screen**

10. The epic poem 'Paradise Lost' is considered as John Milton's **magnum opus**.

a) most forgotten composition                      b) most important work                      Ans: **b) most important work**  
c) most translated epic                      d) most criticized document

11. Fill in the blank with the suitable prepositional phrase.  
..... Gandhiji, Ahimsa means infinite love.  
a) In connection with      b) Except for      c) On behalf of      d) According to  
Ans: **d) According to**
12. Choose the appropriate linker and complete the sentence.  
I could not attend the party ..... I had to take care of my ailing mother.  
a) although      b) until      c) otherwise      d) because      Ans: **d) because**
13. Replace the British English word with its equivalent in American English.  
Ramesh lifted the car's **bonnet** to check the engine.  
a) Trunk      b) Hoot      c) Hood      d) Boot      Ans: **c) Hood**
14. Replace the underlined word with a suitable phrasal verb.  
The meeting was **postponed** as the chairman was on an official tour.  
a) put away      b) put off      c) put out      d) put on      Ans: **b) put off**
15. Choose the word that has been spelt correctly.  
a) existance      b) espionage      c) repurcussions      d) technicality      Ans: **b) espionage**
16. Identify the correct combination of the word "sunlight".  
a) Adjective + Verb      b) Gerund + Verb      c) Adverb + Noun      d) Noun + Noun  
Ans: **d) Noun + Noun**
17. Form a new word by adding a suitable 'prefix' to the underlined word.  
Today, I am certainly the most **partial** judge in England.      Ans: **a) im**  
a) im      b) un      c) in      d) de
18. The expansion of the abbreviation IMF.  
a) Indian Mountaineering Foundation      b) Indian Medical Foundation  
c) International Military Force      d) International Manpower Force  
Ans: **a) Indian Mountaineering Foundation**
19. Choose the appropriate question tag and complete the sentence.  
Let's close our eyes and meditate for sometime,-----?  
a) shall we      b) can't we      c) shan't we      d) can we      Ans: **a) shall we**
20. Choose the unclipped form of 'champ'.  
a) champagne      b) champaign      c) chamberlain      d) champion      Ans: **d) champion**

**PART- II**  
**SECTION-I**

- Choose any four of the following sets of poetic lines and answer the questions that follow.  
4 x 2 = 8
21. "All through that summer at ease we lay,  
And daily the mowers in the wall  
We watched the mowers in the hay".  
(a) Who does 'we' refer to?  
'We' refers to the **soldiers in the castle.**  
(b) What could they watch from the turret wall?  
They could watch the **people who trim grass and level the lawns in the hay** from the **turret wall.**
22. "Then the whining school-boy, with his satchel  
And shining morning face, creeping like snail"

- (a) Which stage of life is being referred to here by the poet?  
The **second stage** or **boyhood stage** of life is being referred to here by the poet.
- (b) Identify the figure of speech employed in the second line?  
**Simile.**
23. “----- free imaginations  
Bringing changes into a world resenting change”.
- (a) How does free imagination help the world?  
Free imagination **brings changes** to the world, which **dislikes change**.
- (b) Identify the figure of speech. - **Transferred Epithet.**
24. “The giant wears the scarf, and flowers are hung  
In crimson clusters all the bough among!”
- (a) Who is the giant here?  
The **casuarina tree** is the giant here.
- (b) Pick out the words in alliteration in the given lines.  
**crimson** - **clusters**
25. “For some three suns to store and hoard myself,  
And this gray spirit yearning in desire.  
To follow knowledge.... ”
- (a) Explain ‘three suns’  
• ‘Three suns’ means **three long years.**  
• **Ulysses stored** his **desire** for **three long years** to **follow knowledge.**
- (b) What does ulysses yearn for?  
Ulysses yearns for **following knowledge.**
26. “Legs wide, arms locked behind,  
As if to balance the prone brow  
Oppressive with its mind”.
- (a) Whose action is described here?  
• **Napoleon’s** action is described here.  
• He was the **French army chief.**
- (b) What is meant by prone brow?  
• ‘Prone brow’ means that the **eyebrows** are **inclined downward.**

**SECTION-2**

■ **Do as directed.**

Answer any three questions.

27. Raju said, “I was playing tennis the whole morning”. (Change into Indirect speech)  
Ans: **Raju said that he had been playing tennis the whole morning.**
28. I was not invited to the party. (Change the voice)  
Ans: **Nobody invited me to the party.**
29. Unless you do these exercises regularly, you will not recover.  
(Rewrite as a compound sentence)  
Ans: **Do these exercises regularly otherwise you will not recover.**
30. The work was over. We went home. (Rewrite using “when”)  
Ans: **When the work was over, we went home.**



**PART- III****SECTION-I**

■ Explain any two of the following with reference to the context.

31. *“Our gates were strong, our walls were thick”*

**Context:** This line is taken from the poem **‘The Castle’** written by **Edwin Muir**.

**Explanation**

- The **narrator** was one of the **soldiers** in the **castle**.
- The soldiers were in the castle **all through** the **summer**.
- They were **lying** and **taking rest**.
- They thought that they had **nothing** to be **afraid of**.
- The castle’s **gates** were **strong** and **walls** were **thick, smooth** and **high**.
- **No man** could **enter** the castle.
- So, the narrator says, ‘Our gates were strong, our walls were thick’.

32. *“They have their exits and their entrances”*

**Context :** This line is taken from the poem **“All the world’s a stage”** written by **William Shakespeare**.

**Explanation**

- Shakespeare **compares** the **world** to a **stage**.
- All the **men** and **women** are **players**.
- They **enter** the **stage** when they are **born** and **exit** when they are **die**.
- During his **life time**, every man **plays seven roles** based on age.

33. *“Life is hard; be steel; be a rock”*

**Context :** This line is taken from the poem **‘A Father to his Son’** written by **Carl August Sandburg**.

**Explanation**

- Here the **father motivates** his son.
- The son is **nearing manhood**.
- The father says that the **life** is **hard**.
- So, he advises his son to be like a **hard rock** and **steel** and withstand **life’s challenges** and **sudden betrayals**.

**SECTION-2**

■ Answer any two of the following questions in not more than 30 words each.

**2 x 3 = 6**

34. How did the narrator help the boys on Sunday?

- Jacopo requested the narrator to **drop them** at Poleta in his **car**.
- **Poleta** is a **village**, 30 kilometers away from the town.
- The narrator **gladly agreed**.
- He **himself drove** the **car** to Poleta.
- This helped the boys to **see their sister** in the hospital.
- Then the narrator **drove** them **back** to the city.

35. What was the profound lesson that Dr. Barnard learnt from the boys?

The profound lesson that Dr. Barnard learnt from the boys was **“the business of living is the celebration of being alive”**. What one had lost was not important. What one had left was important.

36. When did the children get over the fear of sitting on the chair?

4

- The **chair** was used to **prop** up a **dead body**.
- So, the **children** of the house **were** even **afraid** to **look** at the **chair**.

- But, **Suganthi**, from the neighbouring street came and **put** her **baby brother** on the **chair**.
- From then on, the children got over the fear of sitting on the chair.

### SECTION-3

■ Answer any three of the following.

37. Complete the proverbs choosing the right word from the list.

- (a) Brevity is the ..... of wit.  
 (i) base      (ii) soul      (iii) root      Ans: **(ii) soul**
- (b) One ..... does not make a summer.  
 (i) eagle      (ii) swallow      (iii) owl      Ans: **(ii) swallow**
- (c) Necessity is the mother of .....  
 (i) adventure      (ii) innovation      (iii) invention      Ans: **(iii) invention**

38. Rearrange the following jumbled sentences correctly.

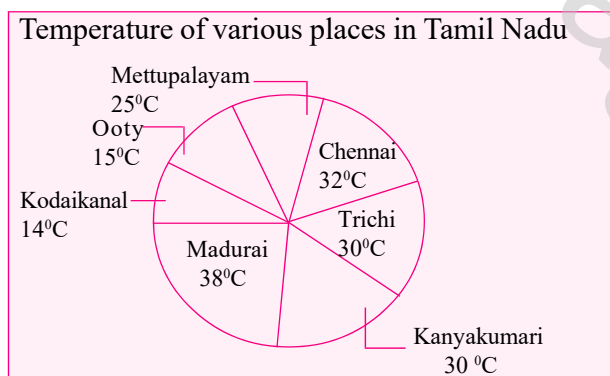
- (a) get / in / at / 7 o'clock / I / up / morning / the  
 Ans: **I get up at 7 o'clock in the morning.**
- (b) is / when / virtue / discipline / the most essential / should acquire / young / one  
 Ans: **Discipline is the most essential virtue, one should acquire when young.**
- (c) humanity / to the / pledge / to consecrate / service of / solemnly / myself / I / my life  
 Ans: **I solemnly pledge myself to consecrate my life to the service of humanity.**

39. Describe the process of making a glass of Mango juice.

#### Mango juice

1. Take 2 mangoes.
2. Chop the mangoes
3. Put the pieces into a mixer jar.
4. Add required water and sugar.
5. Blend them for 30 seconds.
6. Pour the juice into the serving glass.

40. Study the Pie-chart given and answer the questions that follow:



- (a) Which is the coolest place of all?  
 Ans: **Kodaikanal is the coolest place of all.**
- (b) Which place has the second highest temperature?  
 Ans: **Trichi has the second highest temperature.**
- (c) Which places are hotter than Kanyakumari?  
 Ans: **Chennai, Trichi and Madurai are hotter than Kanyakumari.**

## PART - IV

■ Answer the following.

41. Answer the following in a paragraph of about 150 words.

(a) Summarise George Orwell's distinctive ideas in "A Nice Cup of Tea".

- George Orwell suggests eleven golden rules to **prepare** a nice cup of tea.
- First of all one should use **Indian** or Ceylonese **tea**.
- Secondly, tea should be made in **small quantities** in a teapot.
- Thirdly, the pot should be **warmed** first.
- Fourthly, the tea should be **strong**.
- Fifthly, the tea should be put **straight** into the pot.
- Sixthly, take the teapot to the **kettle**.
- Seventhly, the tea should be **stirred**.
- Eighthly, one should drink tea in a good **breakfast cup**.
- Ninthly, **cream** should be removed from milk before using it for tea.
- Tenthly, one should pour **tea** into the cup **first**.
- Lastly, tea should be drunk **without sugar**.
- These are the eleven golden rules suggested by George Orwell.

(b) What do you infer from Gardiner's essay 'On the rule of the Road'?

- Gardiner's essay "**On the Rule of the Road**" portrays the **importance** of **liberty**.
- Liberty is a **social** contract.
- It is an accommodation of **interests**.
- It is **not** a **personal** affair.
- It should **not touch** other's liberty.
- The liberties of **all** must be **maintained**.
- The liberties of **everybody** must be **reduced**.
- The **curtailment** of private liberty helps to **enjoy** the **social order**.
- It makes our **liberty** a **reality**.
- If everybody would be **getting** in everybody else's way then **nobody** would **get anywhere**.
- **Individual** liberty would have become **social anarchy**.
- It will lead to universal **chaos**.
- When we follow "**the rules of the road**" it will declare that we are civilized.

42. Answer the following in a paragraph of about 150 words.

(a) Describe the various stages of a man's life picturised in the poem "All the World's a Stage".

- The poem "**All the World's a Stage**" describes the **various stages** of a man's life.
- During his life time, he plays **seven stages** based on age.
- The **first** stage of a man's life is **infant**.
- He is wholly **dependent** on the mother.
- The **second** stage is a **school child**.
- He slings his bag over his shoulder and **creeps** most **reluctantly** to school.
- The **third** stage is a **lover**.
- He is busy composing **ballads** for his beloved.
- The **fourth** stage is a **soldier**.
- He is **aggressive** and seeks reputation in all that he does.
- In the **fifth** stage, he becomes a **judge**.

- He is **firm** and **serious**.
  - In the **sixth** stage, he is seen with loose pants and **spectacles**.
  - His manly **voice** changes into a childish treble.
  - The **last** stage is his **second childhood**.
  - He loses his faculties of **sight, hearing, smell** and **taste**.
  - He **exits** from the roles of his **life**.
- (b) The young soldier matched his emperor in courage and patriotism. Elucidate your answer.
- The French army was **attacking** the city of **Ratisbon**.
  - The French army chief **Napoleon** was **watching** the **battle**.
  - He was standing on a **mound** near the **battlefield**.
  - He was anxiously **waiting** for the **result**.
  - Suddenly, a **soldier came** there with a smiling face.
  - He was severely **wounded**.
  - His **chest** was **split** into two.
  - He showed no sign of **pain**.
  - He told Napoleon that :
    - By God's grace they had **conquered Ratisbon**.
    - He **himself** had hoisted the **French flag**.
    - The **Marshal** was in the market-place.
    - Napoleon also **should go** there.
    - He could see the **French flag-bird** flap his wings.
  - Napoleon's eyes **softened** when he saw the wound.
  - Like a caring mother eagle, he **asked** the soldier **whether** he was **wounded**.
  - But the wounded soldier replied **proudly** that he was **killed**.
  - He fell and **died** heroically.
43. Answer the following in a paragraph of about 150 words, by developing the hints.
- (a) Pi - survived - shipwreck - life boat - gets stranded in the Pacific - Bengal tiger - Richard Parker - on board - Pi searched for water - found stacks of cans - drinking water - elixir of life - gave him energy - managed to overcome fear - realized that alive - because of Parker - scared him earlier - brought peace - purpose - helped him survive for 227 days - left Parker in a jungle - reunited - family.
- Ans: Pi was a sixteen - year - old **Indian boy**. He survived from a **shipwreck**. He was stranded in the **Pacific** on a lifeboat. A Bengal **tiger Richard Parker** was on board.
- Pi had no water to drink and food to eat for three days. He was on a genuine regulation **lifeboat**. He thought that there should be **water** in the lifeboat. So, he searched for water in the lifeboat. A little later, he found **stacks of cans of drinking water**.
- Pi came back to **life** and his **senses** after drinking the elixir of life. It gave him **energy**. Richard Parker was **not behaving** like a great beast. So, he managed to overcome his **fear** of the tiger.
- Pi realized that Parker **scared** him earlier. But it brought him **peace, purpose** and **wholeness**. It helped him **survive** for 227 days. Pi left Richard Parker in a **jungle** and **reunited** with his family.
- (b) Ausable - clever - secret agent - entered - his room - found - Max - aimed - pistol - lose - courage - quick - witted man - complained - balcony - intruder - window - management did not block - knocking - door - police - extra protection - important paper - Max - hid - balcony - fell to death - no police - no balcony - Ausable's plan - to get rid of Max.

**Ans:**Ausable was a clever **secret agent**.

He had **a room** on the sixth and top floor at a gloomy **French hotel**. One night, **Ausable** and **Fowler**, a young writer, went to the **hotel** room. Ausable closed the door behind him and **switched** on the light. The light came on. They saw **Max**, a spy, standing with an automatic **pistol** in the middle of the room. Max came to Ausable's room to take the **report** about some new **missiles**. Ausable's presence of mind made a **quick plan** to outwit Max. He told that it was the **second time** that somebody got into his room through the **balcony** behind the window. He already **complained** about the balcony to the hotel management. They promised to **block it**. But they did **not block**. At that time, they heard a **knock** at the door. It was a **waiter**. Ausable told Max that there would be the **police**, he asked the police for a little extra protection as it was an important report. Max told that he would **wait** on the **balcony**. He swiftly went to the **window**. He **jumped** from the window to the balcony. He **fell down** with a loud scream because there was no **balcony**. Thus, Ausable **outwitted Max**.

**44. (a)** Write a summary of the following passage.

The aim of education is the overall development of the personality of man. It means the development of not only the mind but also the body. Games keep the body fit. A healthy mind can dwell only in a healthy body. For keeping a body healthy, games are indispensable. People who have developed the habit of playing games regularly can maintain good health. Games help to build a muscular body. They include sound sleep which is a sign of good health.

Therefore, games are food for the body, as knowledge is food for the mind. In fact, 'all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy'. Everybody likes games because these keep them physically fit and mentally alert.

Games help us to keep our body active and vigorous. They enable us to face dangers boldly. When a person plays games, his blood circulation increases and his digestive system improve. He does not fall prey to any disease. Games inculcate in us the spirit of sportsmanship. They also teach us courage and perseverance.

**Importance of Games****Rough copy:**

~~The aim of education is to develop the personality of man. But, Games keep the body fit. They give healthy body. They maintain good health. They help to build a muscular body. They give sound sleep. They are food for the body. They keep us physically fit, mentally alert, active and vigorous. They help us to face danger. They improve blood circulation and digestion. They protect from disease. They teach the spirit of sportsmanship, courage and perseverance.~~

**Fair copy:**

**Education develops human personality. But, Games keep the body fit and healthy. They maintain good health and a muscular body. They give sound sleep. They are food for the body. They keep us physically fit, mentally alert, active and vigorous. They help us to face danger. They improve blood circulation and digestion. They protect from disease. They teach sportsmanship, courage and perseverance.**

**Total words in the passage : 173****Words in my summary : 63**

(b) Write a paragraph on 'The Importance of Reading'.

### The importance of Reading

Reading is a hobby. It is a good habit. It develops language skills and vocabulary. It helps to reduce stress. It is important to read a good book. Books are our best friends. They guide us to the correct path in life. Reading helps to develop positive thinking. It gives excessive knowledge. It keeps our mind active. It enhances our creative ability. It takes us to the world of imagination.

Book reading is full of pleasure. We never feel bored or lonely if we develop our reading habits. Reading is one of the best qualities. So, it is very important to develop a good reading habit.

45. (a) Write a letter to the Headmaster of your school requesting him to help you obtain a duplicate mark sheet of class XII, which you lost while travelling.

From

T. Parkavi,  
12, Middle street,  
Nagercoil - 2.

To

The Headmaster,  
Govt. HSS,  
Nagercoil - 1.  
Respected Sir,  
Sub : To obtain a duplicate mark sheet.

I studied class XII in your school in the year 2016-17. My register number is 2015311. I lost my class XII mark sheet when I travelled in a bus. Hence I request you to kindly issue me a duplicate marksheet of class XII.

Thanking you.  
Yours faithfully,  
T. Parkavi

(b) Your friend is in hospital, undergoing treatment for a fractured leg. Write a letter of consolation, assuring him / her that he / she will get well soon.

XXX,  
YYY.  
15-03-2023.

Dear friend,

I have just heard that you have fractured your leg. I am very sorry. I hope your leg heals quickly.

Take a good diet and follow the doctor's instructions. Get well soon. Take care of yourself.

Your's loving,  
XXX.

46. (a) Read the following sentences, spot the errors and correct them.

(i) Usha is not only a writer but an orator.

Ans: **Usha is not only a writer but also an orator.**

(ii) Though she is weak but she is active.

Ans: **Though she is weak she is active.**

(iii) The bus conductor gave me an one rupee coin.

Ans: **The bus conductor gave me a one rupee coin.**

(iv) Children prefer sweets than snacks.

Ans: **Children prefer sweets to snacks.**

(v) Pradeep is my cousin brother.

Ans: **Pradeep is my cousin.**

(b) Fill in the blanks appropriately.

i) I had no ..... . My friend gave me a ..... of advice. (**peace / piece**) Ans: **peace, piece**

ii) How..... you open my bag! (Fill in the blank with semi-modal verb) Ans: **dare**

iii) We ..... (see) a wonderful film at the cinema last night. Ans: **saw**

(Fill in the blank with the right tense form)

iv) ..... (shop) is my favourite hobby. Ans: **Shopping**

(Use the gerundial form of the verb in the bracket)

47. (a) Develop the hints into a story of 150 words.

A milkman - became wealthy - dishonest way - had to cross a river - reached city - mixed - river water - sold - customers - bought - good profit - went around - purchased articles - clothes - returned to river - while crossing - boat capsized - all purchases lost - right punishment - for greed.

#### Covert all, lose all

Once, there lived a milkman. He became wealthy in a dishonest way. One day he went to the city to sell the milk. At that time, he had to cross a river. The milk man mixed the river water with the milk.

He sold the milk. The customers bought the milk. He earned good profit. So, he went around the city and purchased many articles and clothes.

He returned from the city. He reached the river. The boat capsized while crossing the river. All purchases fell into the river. It was a right punishment for his greed. He lost everything that he had earned out of dishonesty.

(b) Read the following passage and answer the questions given below.

The earth is losing its forests. Trees cover about 30 percent of the earth's surface, but they are being destroyed at an alarming rate especially in the tropics. Timber harvesting is a major reason for the destruction of the forests. Trees are used for building houses, making furniture and providing pulp for paper products, such as newspapers and magazines. At least 40 hectares of rain forests are being felled every minute, mostly in order to extract the valuable timber.

(i) What is the major reason for the destruction of forests?

**Timber harvesting is the major reason for the destruction of forests.**

(ii) Mention any two uses of trees.

**Trees are used for building houses, making furniture and providing pulp for paper products.**

(iii) Why are rain forests being destroyed?

**Rain forests are being destroyed for the valuable timber.**

(iv) How much of the earth's surface is occupied by trees? Ans: **30 percent**

(v) Pick out the word from the passage that means the same as 'wood'. Ans: **timber**



**Questions and Answers from Public Exam Question Papers - 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020 and PTA Question Papers.**

**Part I**

**Synonyms**

1. slackened - <b>reduced</b>	11. stimulated - <b>excitement</b>
2. anarchy - <b>lawlessness</b>	12. liable - <b>responsible</b>
3. disfigured - <b>marred</b>	13. contract - <b>commitment</b>
4. stimulated - <b>motivated</b>	14. intrepid - <b>gallant</b>
5. enormous - <b>huge</b>	15. demeanour - <b>appearance and behaviour</b>
6. chaos - <b>confusion</b>	16. steady - <b>firm</b>
7. insolence - <b>rudeness</b>	17. prevalent - <b>common</b>
8. agony - <b>suffering</b>	18. dangling - <b>hanging freely</b>
9. trail - <b>track</b>	19. controversial - <b>arguable</b>
10. indifferent - <b>unconcerned</b>	20. solace - <b>comfort</b>

**Antonyms**

21. sophisticated x <b>primitive</b>	30. devotion x <b>disloyalty</b>
22. sturdy x <b>weak</b>	31. loomed x <b>vanished</b>
23. conventional x <b>unconventional</b>	32. despised x <b>liked</b>
24. deserted x <b>crowded</b>	33. humble x <b>proud</b>
25. prevalent x <b>uncommon</b>	34. confidence x <b>diffidence</b>
26. vital x <b>trivial</b>	35. stout x <b>thin</b>
27. chaos x <b>orderliness</b>	36. ennobles x <b>humiliates</b>
28. deserted x <b>inhabited</b>	37. violent x <b>gentle</b>
29. malignant x <b>benign</b>	

■ Replace the underlined **idiom** with its suitable meaning

38. The examinations are **round the corner** . Ans : **very near**

39. **Eleventh hour** preparation will not help the students. Ans : **at the last moment**

40. **In deep waters**. Ans: **in trouble**

41. His name is **under cloud** for the theft case. Ans: **on suspicion**

42. At present, the performance of the State's Kabbadi team is '**at a low ebb**'. Ans : **on the decline**

43. The judgement of the lower court was declared **null and void** by the high court. Ans : **invalid**

44. Mano is a **down-to-earth** man. Ans: **practical**

45. **I told him flat** that I did not like him. Ans: **expressed opinion directly**

46. **A bolt out of a clear sky**. Ans: **a sudden unexpected event**

■ Replace the underlined word with a **polite form** of expression.

47. **Slow learners** are to be taught with more care and attention. Ans : **slow bloomers**

48. The man in a grey suit is a **barber**. Ans : **hair dresser**

49. This watch is very **cheap**. Ans : **economical**

34

50. This is a school for **blind**. Ans : **visually impaired**



6. *'Legs wide, arms locked behind, [PTA-1]  
As if to balance the prone brow  
Oppressive with its mind'.*  
a) Whose action is described here?  
**Napoleon's** action is described here. He was the **French army chief**.  
b) What is his state of mind? His state of mind is **anxious** and **oppressive**.
7. *"Then the whining school-boy, with his satchel [PTA-1,4]  
And shining morning face, creeping like snail  
Unwillingly to school".*  
a) Which stage of life is being referred to here by the poet?  
The **second stage** or **boyhood stage** of life is being referred to here by the poet.  
b) How does the boy go to school? The boy goes to school creeping like a **snail unwillingly**.
8. *"Life is hard; be steel; be a rock." [PTA-1,4]*  
i) How should one face life? One should face life like a **steel** or **rock**.  
ii) Identify the figure of speech in the above line. **Metaphor**
9. *"A creeper climbs, in whose embraces bound [PTA-1,5]  
No other tree could live".*  
a) Which tree is referred to in the above lines? **Casuarina tree** is referred to in the above lines.  
b) What quality of tree is highlighted here? The **strength** of tree is highlighted here.
10. *".....for my purpose holds [PTA-1,4]  
To sail beyond the sunset, and the baths  
Of all the western stars, until I die".*  
a) What was Ulysses' purpose in life?  
Ulysses' purpose in life was to **sail beyond the sunset** and **seek newer world**.  
b) What does the word 'baths' mean here?  
**Outer ocean or river that the Greeks believed to surround the flat earth**.
11. *"All through the summer at ease we lay, [PTA-2, 4]  
And daily from the turret wall  
We watched the mowers in the hay"*  
a) Who does 'we' refer to?  
'We' refers to the **soldiers in the castle**.  
b) How did the soldiers spend the summer days?  
The soldiers spent the summer days by **lying** and **taking rest**.
12. *"A film the mother-eagle's eye [PTA-2]  
When her bruised eaglet breathes".*  
a) Why did Napoleon's eyes become soft as a mother eagle's eyes?  
The boy was **severely wounded**. On seeing that Napoleon's eyes became soft as a mother eagle's eyes  
b) What is the figure of speech employed in the first line? **Metaphor**.
13. *"Tell him solitude is creative if he is strong [PTA-2]  
And the final decisions are made in silent rooms".*  
a) How would his being alone help the boy?  
Being alone helps the boy to **be creative**.

3. *I'm killed, Sire And, his chief beside* [Mar-2020]

*Smiling, the boy fell dead.*

**Context :** These lines are taken from the poem “**Incident of the French Camp**” written by **‘Robert Browning’**.

**Explanation**

- The **French army** was attacking the city of **Ratisbon**.
- The French army chief **Napoleon** was standing on a **mound** near the battle field.
- He was anxiously **waiting** for the result.
- Suddenly, **a soldier** came there with a smiling face.
- He told Napoleon that by **Gods’ grace** they had **conquered** Ratisbon.
- He was **severely wounded**.
- His **chest** was split into two.
- Napoleon’s eyes **softened** when he saw that.
- Like a caring **mother eagle**, he asked the soldier **whether** he was **wounded**.
- But the wounded soldier replied **proudly** that he was **killed**.
- He **fell** and **died** heroically.

4. *“The wizened warder let them through”* [PTA-1]

**Context:** This line is taken from the poem “**The Castle**” written by **Edwin Muir**.

**Explanation**

- The **soldiers** were in the **castle**, all through the summer.
- They were **lying** and **taking** rest.
- They thought that they had **nothing** to be **afraid** of.
- They had loads and loads of **weapons** and **food** in the castle.
- The castle’s **gates** were **strong** and **walls** were **thick, smooth** and **high**.
- There was a little **private gate** in the castle.
- It was guarded by an **old wicked warder**.
- He **let** the **enemies** inside the castle through the **little gate** by getting **gold** from the enemies.

5. *“Then off there flung in smiling joy,* [PTA-1]

*And held himself erect”*

**Context :** These lines are taken from the poem “**Incident of the French Camp**” written by **Robert Browning**.

**Explanation**

- The **French army** was **attacking** the city of Ratisbon.
- The French army chief **Napoleon** was standing on a **mound** near the battlefield.
- He was anxiously **waiting** for the **result**.
- Suddenly, a **soldier** came there with a smiling face.
- He was **severely wounded**.
- His **chest** was split into two.
- He **showed** no sign of **pain**.
- He could **not stand** erect.
- But, he stood erect to **show** his **respect** to his chief.

6. *“Jealous in honour, sudden and quick in quarrel.”* [PTA-1,6]

**Context:** This line is taken from the poem “**All the World’s a Stage**” written by **William Shakespeare**.

**Part-IV**

■ Answer the following in a paragraph of about 150 words.

1. How did Hillary and Tenzing prepare themselves before they set off to the summit? [Mar- 2020]

- Edmund **Hillary** and **Tenzing** were **climbing** the **Himalayas**.
- On **May 28, 1953**, they were at the **height** of **27,900 feet**.
- They made a **tent** and stayed there.
- On **May 29**, at 4.am, they began to get **ready** for the **climb**.
- They **started** up their **cooker**.
- They drank large quantities of **lemon juice** with sugar.
- They ate the **sardines** on **biscuits**.
- Hillary cleaned the ice from the **oxygen sets**.
- He **rechecked** and tested them.
- He **cooked** his frozen boots over the flame of the small stove.
- They wore their **windproof** over their down clothing.
- They wore three pairs of **gloves** - silk, woollen and windproof on their hands.
- At **6.30 a.m**, they **crawled out** of the **tent**.
- They put the **30 lb.** of **oxygen gear** on their backs.
- They connected their **masks**.
- They **turned** on the **valves** to bring life - giving oxygen to their lungs.
- Then they **moved off**.
- Thus, they set off to the summit.

2. Human greed led to the mighty fall of the citadel. Explain. [Mar- 2021, PTA-2,6]

- ❖ The castle was very **strong** and **safe**.
- ❖ Its **gates** were **strong** and **walls** were **thick, smooth** and **high**.
- ❖ Even by a trick **no one could** enter the castle.
- ❖ Only **birds** could get into the castle.
- ❖ There was a little **private gate** in the castle.
- ❖ It was guarded by an **old wicked warder**.
- ❖ He let the **enemies** inside the castle through the little gate by **getting gold** from them.
- ❖ The soldiers were **sold** for **gold** to enemies.
- ❖ The soldiers could do nothing because they had **no weapon** to **fight** with '**gold**'.
- ❖ The famous castle was **captured** without a battle.
- ❖ The soldiers were **defeated** by the greed of the warder.
- ❖ Thus human greed led to the mighty fall of the citadel.

3. The young soldier matched his emperor in courage and patriotism. Elucidate your answer.

- ♦ **The French army** was **attacking** the city of Ratisbon. [Mar- 2021, PTA-1,4,5,6]
- ♦ The French army chief **Napoleon** was standing on a **mound** near the battlefield.
- ♦ He was anxiously **waiting** for the result.
- ♦ Suddenly a **soldier** came there with a smiling face.
- ♦ He was **severely wounded**.
- ♦ His **chest** was split into two.
- ♦ He showed no sign of **pain**.
- ♦ He told Napoleon that :

- By **God's grace** they had **conquered** Ratisbon.
  - He himself had hoisted the **French flag**.
  - The **Marshal** was in the market-place.
  - Napoleon also **should go** there.
  - He could see the **French flag-bird** flap his wings.
  - ♦ Napoleon's **eyes softened** when he saw the wound.
  - ♦ Like a **caring mother eagle**, he asked the soldier whether he was wounded.
  - ♦ But the wounded soldier replied **proudly** that he was **killed**.
  - ♦ He fell and **died heroically**.
  - ♦ **Napoleon's courage** led the young soldier to face death heroically.
  - ♦ Thus, the young soldier matched his emperor in courage and patriotism.
4. Describe the various stages of a man's life picturised in the poem "All the World's a Stage".  
[Mar- 2023, PTA-1,4]
- The poem "**All the World's a Stage**" describes the **various stages** of a **man's life**.
  - During his life time, he plays **seven stages** based on age.
  - The **first** stage of a man's life is **infant**.
  - He is wholly **dependent** on the **mother**.
  - The **second** stage is a **school child**.
  - He slings his bag over his shoulder and **creeps** most **reluctantly** to school.
  - The **third** stage is a **lover**.
  - He is busy composing **ballads** for his beloved.
  - The **fourth** stage is a **soldier**.
  - He is **aggressive** and seeks reputation in all that he does.
  - In the **fifth** stage, he becomes a **judge**.
  - He is **firm** and **serious**.
  - In the **sixth** stage, he is seen with **loose pants** and **spectacles**.
  - His manly **voice** changes into a childish treble.
  - The **last** stage is his **second childhood**.
  - He loses his faculties of **sights, hearing, smell** and **taste**.
  - He **exits** from the roles of his **life**.
5. What do you infer from Gardiner's essay 'On the rule of the Road'? [Mar- 2023, PTA-3,4]
- Gardiner's essay "**On the Rule of the Road**" portrays the **importance** of **liberty**.
  - Liberty is a **social contract**.
  - It is an **accommodation** of **interests**.
  - It is **not** a **personal affair**.
  - It should not touch **other's liberty**.
  - The liberties of all must be **maintained**.
  - The liberties of everybody must be **reduced**.
  - The **curtailment** of private liberty helps to enjoy the **social order**.
  - It makes our liberty a **reality**.
  - If **everybody** would be getting in everybody else's way then **nobody** would get **anywhere**.
  - Individual liberty would have become **social anarchy**.
  - It will lead to **universal chaos**.
  - When we follow "**the rules of the road**" it will declare that we are **civilized**.

7. Water is the elixir of life. Substantiate the statement with reference to the story of 'Life of Pi'. [PTA-1]

- ◆ Water is the **elixir** of life.
- ◆ Pi and his family were in a **ship** moving from Pondicherry to Canada.
- ◆ An unexplained event caused the **ship** to **sink**.
- ◆ Pi was left **alone** in the middle of the **Pacific Ocean** without drinking water for three days.
- ◆ He thought that **thirst** was a drawn - out affair.
- ◆ It made him **mad**.
- ◆ It was a worse **physical hell**.
- ◆ He felt an unbearable **pressure** at the back of the **throat**.
- ◆ His blood turned into thick **syrup**.
- ◆ He thought that there should be water in the **lifeboat**.
- ◆ He found many **water cans**.
- ◆ He opened a can and **drank** the water.
- ◆ A sense of **well - being** quickly overcame him.
- ◆ His **mouth** became moist and soft.
- ◆ His **skin** relaxed.
- ◆ His **joints** moved with greater ease.
- ◆ His **heart** began to beat like a merry drum.
- ◆ **Blood** started flowing through his veins.
- ◆ Strength and suppleness came back to his **muscles**.
- ◆ His **head** became clearer.
- ◆ He came back to **life**.

8. The sun brought about a positive change in the attitude of the children. Illustrate the statement. [PTA-1]

- ◆ The **children** were **living** on the **planet Venus**.
- ◆ They were all **nine years** old.
- ◆ In Venus, the **sun** would **rise** for an hour or two **only once** in **seven years**.
- ◆ Margot came to **Venus only five years ago** from Earth.
- ◆ She was **familiar** with the sun.
- ◆ So, the **other children hated** Margot.
- ◆ **On the day**, when the sun was going to appear, **they locked Margot** in a **closet**.
- ◆ The **sun came** out.
- ◆ The **children looked** everything and **enjoyed** everything.
- ◆ After an hour, the **sun faded**.
- ◆ The **sky darkened** and the **rain began**.
- ◆ They **walked** back to the **underground house**.
- ◆ One of them **remembered Margot**.
- ◆ They **stood** as if **someone** had **driven** them.
- ◆ They **looked** at **each other** and then **looked away**.
- ◆ They **could not** meet each **other's glances**.
- ◆ Their **faces** were **serious** and **pale**.

- ♦ They **walked slowly** down the hall.
- ♦ They **went near** the **closet door**.
- ♦ They **unlocked** the **door** and let **Margot out**.
- ♦ The **arrogance** in their behavior was **gone**.
- ♦ They **regretted** locking Margot in the closet.
- ♦ Thus, the sun brought about a positive change in the attitude of the children.

9. 'There is no height, no depth that the spirit of man, guided by higher Spirit cannot attain'. [PTA-2]

Explain the above statement in the context of the achievement of Edmund Hillary and Tenzing.

- \* **Edmund Hillary** and **Tenzing** were climbing the **Himalayas**.
- \* On **May 29, 1953** at **11.30 am** they stood on the **top** of the **summit**.
- \* They went through **dangers** and **difficulties**.
- \* The **soft snow** made them **unhappy**.
- \* When **Hillary stamped** in the soft snow, a **section** around him **gave way**.
- \* He **slipped back** three or four of his steps.
- \* Once **Hillary jammed** his **way** into a **crack**.
- \* He prayed to **God**.
- \* He **inched** his way **upwards** and **dragged** himself **out** of the **rock**.
- \* Tenzing **wriggled** his **way** up the crack and **came out** after a **terrible struggle**.
- \* They used their **knees, shoulders** and **arms** to climb on the rock.
- \* When **Hillary cut** around the back of **one ridge**, another higher one **came into view**.
- \* The **ridge** took two and **half hours** to climb it.
- \* It **seemed** like **lifetime**.
- \* On **May 29, 1953**, at **11.30 am** they **stood** on the **top** of the **Summit**.
- \* Thus, the higher Spirit (God) guided the spirit of man to attain the height.

10. How did Ausable outwit Max? [PTA- 2, 3, 4]

- Ausable was a **secret agent**.
- He had a **room** on the sixth and top floor of a gloomy **French hotel**.
- One night, **Ausable** and **Fowler**, a young writer, went to **the hotel room**.
- Ausable **closed** the **door** behind him and **switched** on the **light**.
- The **light** came on.
- They saw **Max**, a **spy**, standing with an **automatic pistol** in the middle of the room.
- Max came to Ausable's room to take the **report** about some new **missiles**.
- Ausable's **presence of mind** made a **quick plan** to outwit Max.
- He told that it was the **second time** that **somebody** got into his **room** through the **balcony** behind the window.
- He already complained about the **balcony** to the **hotel management**.
- They promised to **block** it. But they **did not**.
- At that time, **they heard** a **knock** at the door.
- It was a **waiter**.
- Ausable told Max that **there** would be the **police**.

- Max told that he would **wait** on the **balcony**.
- He **swiftly** went to the **window**.
- He **jumped** from the window to the **balcony**.
- He **fell down** with a **loud scream** because there was **no balcony**.
- Thus, Ausable outwitted Max.

11. Forgiveness is the best form of revenge. Substantiate the statement with reference to the Aksionov story. [PTA-2]

- Aksionov was a **young merchant** of Vladimir.
- He was **sent** to **prison** for a crime that he **did not commit**.
- He was in prison for 26 years.
- When he was in prison **he met** the **real murderer Makar**.
- Makar **dug** a **tunnel** for **his escape**.
- **Aksionov noticed** this.
- The **convoy soldiers** found out the **tunnel**.
- The **Governor asked** “**Who dug the hole?**”.
- They all **denied**.
- The **Governor asked** Aksionov to **tell the truth**.
- Aksionov **glanced** at Makar, and said that it was **not God’s will** to **tell the truth**.
- **That night, Makar came quietly and sat down on** Aksionov’s **bed**.
- He said that **he was the man who killed the merchant** and hid the knife among his things.
- He **knelt** down and **asked** for **forgiveness**.
- Aksionov said that **God would forgive Makar**.
- He might be a **hundred times worse** than **Makar**.
- **Aksionov’s forgiveness made Makar to confess his guilt**.
- But when the **order** for his **release came** Aksionov was **already dead**.
- Thus, forgiveness is the best form of revenge.

12. Is Baldwin really honest or does he maintain his honesty fearing criticism? Why do you say so? [PTA-4]

**Yes**, Baldwin is really honest.

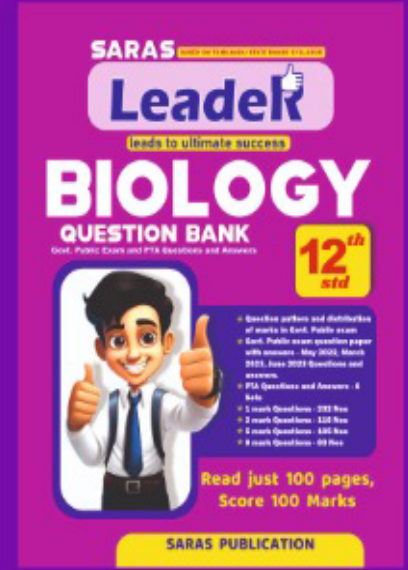
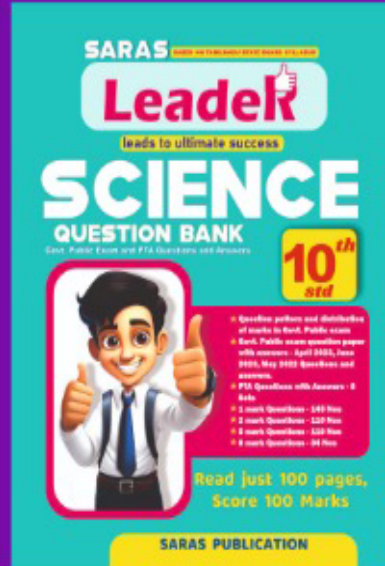
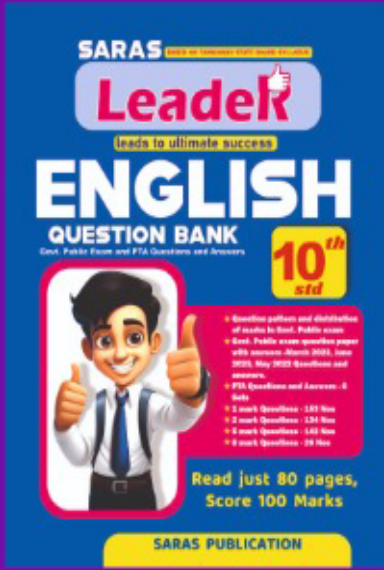
He maintains his **honesty**, not fearing **criticism**.

Baldwin was an **honest man**. He ever did a **wrong** in his life. **Baldwin** and **Gresham** were **friends** for **thirty five years**. John Gresham **started** a bank. He was the **President** of that bank. **Baldwin** was the **secretary** in Gresham’s bank.

They were **boys together**. They **worked together**. They became **thick friends**. Baldwin was **loyal** to Gresham. He **named** his **son** after his **friend** John Gresham. He expressed his **wish** that his **son** should always **live like Gresham**.

Gresham **grew rich** in **twenty years**. He paid Baldwin **sixty dollar** a week. But, Baldwin **never complained** about it.

Gresham had **committed** a **fraud** in his bank. He had been **arrested** for **misappropriation** of **money**. Baldwin **found** out the **fraud** by **accident**.



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