

Motithang Higher Secondary School
BHSEC Midterm Examinations 2017
ENGLISH – I

Class: XII
Time: 3 Hours

Marks: 100

(The first fifteen minutes of the examination are for reading the paper only.
Candidates must NOT start writing during this time.)

Instructions:

1. This paper has two sections, Section A for writing and Section B for Language. Section B is further divided into nature of language and grammar.
2. All the questions are compulsory.
3. The intended marks for each question is given in brackets.
4. You are recommended to spend 2 hours on Section A and 1 hour on Section B.
5. You should begin each answer on a fresh page.

Section A: Writing

Question 1

(30 marks)

Write an essay using the features of an argumentative essay on any ONE of the following topics and write an original essay on it. (You are reminded that you will be awarded marks for orderly and correct presentation of material, use of appropriate style and general accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar.)

- a. Romantic love is a poor basis for marriage.
- b. Student achievement is an indicator of the quality of education. Is student achievement the reflection of students' effort or does it reflect teachers' input?
- c. Disciplinary problems in a child are an indication of poor upbringing on the part of parents.
- d. Should beauty pageants be banned?
- e. Some say that exposure to the outside world through television and especially through the Internet has caused an erosion of our own culture and values.

Question 2

(30 marks)

Write an original story titled The Secret, employing all the elements of a short story. You are reminded that in the above task, you will be assessed on expression, style and mechanics.

Section B

I. Nature of language

(10 marks)

Question 3

Directions: Read the following questions carefully, for each question choose the correct answer from the given alternatives and write it in your answer sheet. (1x4)

- The basic urge of human beings is to
 - laugh
 - respond
 - communicate
 - make body gestures
- _____ is the study of meanings or all the meanings expressed by a language.
 - Syntax
 - Phonology
 - Morphology
 - Semantics
- Language has no logical connection between the words or a sound and thing it stands for is unexplainable. Which feature is described here?
 - Duality
 - Productivity
 - Arbitrariness
 - Displacement
- The loss of ability to speak is called____
 - dialect
 - displacement
 - aphasia
 - proxemics

Question 4

Answer the questions given below.

(6 marks)

- Explain how language is an individual and a social phenomenon. (2)
- Explain the following features of language: productivity and displacement. (2)
- What is the purpose of grammar in language? (2)

II. Grammar

(30 marks)

Question 5

Direction: Read the following questions carefully and carefully fill in the blanks with the appropriate phrasal verb. (1x5)

Break in	Set off	Called off	Called back	Look forward to
Run out of	Hold on	Break out	Do without	Carry out

1. Don't smoke in the forest. Fires _____ easily at this time of the year.
2. I _____ seeing my friends again.
3. I am afraid; we have _____ of apple juice. Will orange juice do instead?
4. My friend has _____ her wedding.
5. I just cannot _____ my mobile. I always keep it with me.

Question 6

Fill in the blanks choosing the correct form of the verb given in each sentence.
(1x5)

1. My scissors (isn't/aren't) _____ sharp enough to cut the papers.
2. The dogs (bark/barks) at strangers.
3. Black or white (is/are) your choice.
4. They (has/have) been waiting a long time.
5. These flowers (shimmers/shimmer) in the bright sunshine.

Question 7

Read the following sentences and change them according to the sentence mentioned in brackets. (1x5)

1. The night is beautiful. (Exclamatory)
2. Is this the kind of dress to wear to work? (Assertive)
3. Can you stop talking? (Imperative)
4. Shut the door. (Interrogative)
5. He was very strong. (Exclamatory)

Question 8

Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given in the brackets, keeping the meaning as similar as possible to the original. (1x5)

1. He has wanted to a minister for a long time. (Use: ambition)
2. Very few countries in the world are as large as China. (Rewrite using the superlative degree of comparison)
3. Hercules was stronger than any other man. (Begin: No other.....)
4. No sooner did we hear the noise than we rushed to the spot. (Begin: Hardly...)
5. It is very hot. No one can work. (Use: too)

Question 9

Edit the following sentences and rewrite them correctly in your answer sheet. Underline the edited part. (1x10)

1. She is going to pray, is she?
2. We should expect that change is inevitable.
3. The boy sat besides his parents.
4. The education provided in schools do not prepare us to face the world.

5. When meditating, sit in a way that help you feel physically at ease and mentally alert.
6. The midday sun leaned over to place it's fiery kiss upon the Shalimar Gardens in Lahore.
7. Legend has it that Lord Krishna gave the Kohinoor to a devotee as a reward for his meditations.
8. I neither write to tell you of my studies, or to ask you for money.
9. A few weeks ago, I read a beautiful story of a loving mother and she remind me so much of you.
10. First we went shopping and than we went for a movie.

ALL THE BEST!

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