

AUTUMN BREAK HOLIDAY HOME WORK

Class XII

English

SECTION A – READING

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

1. The National Basketball Championship Women's finals had all the ingredients of the Chak De Climax. Till half-time, the Railways team, playing against the Chhattisgarh girls' team, led on the scoreboard. And then, the unexpected happened. The Chhattisgarh girls tore into the Railway defenses and every time they took a shot, the ball made it through the hoop. The scoreboard kept moving and at the final whistle, it stood in Chhattisgarh's favor.
2. But more important than the victory, it is the stories of some of these players that make it a fantastic match. Most of the players come from poor families and have dealt with severe setbacks. Take the story of India's tallest woman hoopster, Poonam Chaturvedi. A severe headache that had been bothering her for a long time, was diagnosed with brain tumour six months ago. She had lost her will to live but had joined the team to please her father, a constable in Uttar Pradesh. Within a few minutes into the game the headache had returned and she was benched. But when Captain Seema Singh fouled out, she was forced to return. She went on to put up a brilliant performance, despite the pain and anxiety.
3. Behind this stupendous success is Coach Rajesh Patel, who has been running the Chhattisgarh Basketball Development Academy for 13 years. With financial backing from the steel plants in his area, he has been mentoring deserving boys and girls from tribal belts and training them for the game. A promise of employment and promotion if they excel in the game. Keeps his girls going, says Patel.
4. So far, Patel has trained 1500 youngsters. Of the lot, the really disadvantaged children are taken into a hostel run by him and his wife Anita, till they are independent. Many of Patel's protégés have gone on to perform at national and international events and the Chhattisgarh girls he has trained, claim a unique record of bringing home 74 medals in their 80 national-level appearances.
5. Yet none of these players have had an easy life. Seema Singh of the current team is its most experienced player. She had represented Chhattisgarh for the first time in 2002. When she was dropped from the Railways team earlier, due to a knee injury, she picked herself up and resumed playing for Chhattisgarh and won the national trophy for her coach, as she puts it.
6. Another team member, L Deepa, triumphed over a physical drawback. She is short and found this a great disadvantage in a sport like 'basketball where height matters. But when Patel gave her a chance to come up to his expectations, Deepa more than measured up.
7. Others, like Bharti Nigam, came into the team as she could not make to the Railways team this year. This daughter of a police constable, she took this snub as a challenge and went on to become a professional player. Her sports teacher, she feels, motivated her to take up the sport as a career.
8. All these women together have thus scripted an unusual tale of great valour, indomitable courage and implicit trust in their coach to secure for India a great honour. For their team

the win over the giants, the Railways team, this victory has spelt a personal rewind of the typical underdog who-triumphs movie of how they dunked the odds .

On the basis of your reading of the passage complete the statement given below with the help of options that follow.

- (a) The match between the Railways and Chhattisgarh was won by.....
- (i) The Chak De India team (ii) the Chhattisgarh girls' team
(iii) The Railways' team (iv) no one, as it was a draw
- (b) Poonarn Chaturvedi is
- (i) India's tallest woman hoopster (ii) the captain of the Chhattisgarh team
(iii) a player from the Railways team (iv) a girl living in a hostel
- (c) The Chhattisgarh Basketball Academy has been running for.....
- (i) one year (ii) the benefit of the steel plants
(iii) 13 years (iv) the national an international championship
- (d) The coach of Chhattisgarh basketball team is
- (i) Jiva Patel (ii) Rajesh Patel
(iii) Anita Patel (iv) Poonam Chaturvedi

Answer the folloning questions briefly.

- (e) What change came over the match between the Railways and the Chhattisgarh team after half- time?
- (f) Why was Poonam Chaturvedi benched and why did she return?
- (g) Mention two facts about Seema Singh.
- (h) How was Bharti Nigam motivated after her rejection?
- (i) What have all these women scripted?
- (j) What is the incentive for boys and girls if they perform well?
- (k) Find words from the passage which mean the same as:
- (i) basketball player (para 2)
(ii) extremely impressive (para 3)

2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

1. It was three in the afternoon when Philip left the realms of commonsense. He was so weary with travelling that he had fallen asleep in the train. His fellow-passengers had the usual Italian gift of divination, and when Monteriano came they knew he wanted to go there, and

dropped him out. His feet sank into the hot asphalt of 'the platform, and in a dream he watched the train depart, while the porter who ought to have been carrying his bag, ran up the line playing touch-you- last with the guard Alas! he was in no humour for Italy. Bargaining for a legno bored him unutterably. The man asked six lire; and though 'Philip knew that for eight miles it should scarcely be more than four. Yet he was about to give what he was asked, and so make the man discontented and unhappy for the rest of the day. He was saved from this social blunder by loud shouts. and looking up the road saw one cracking his whip and waving his reins and driving two horses furiously. am behind him there appeared the swaying figure of a woman, holding star-fish fashion on to another she could touch. It was Miss Abbott, who had just received his letter from Milan announcing the, time of his arrival, and had hurried down to meet him.

He had known Miss Abbott for years, and had never had much opinion about her one way or the other. She was good, quiet, dull, and amiable, and young only because she was twenty-three: there was nothing in her appearance or manner to suggest the fire of youth. All her life had been spent at Saws ton with a dull and amiable father, and her pleasant, pallid face, bent on some respectable charity. was a familiar object of the Sawston streets, Why she had ever wished to leave them was surprising; but us she truly said, "I am John Dull to the backbone, yet J do want to sec Italy, just once. Everybody says it is marvelous, and that one gets no idea of it from books at all." The curate suggested that a year was a long time; and Miss Abbott, with decorous playfulness, answered him, "Oh, but you must let me have my fling! I promise to have it once, and once only. It will give me things to think about and talk about for the rest of my life." The curate had consented; so had Mr. Abbott And here she was in u legno, solitary, dusty, frightened. With as much to answer and to answer for as the most dashing adventuress could desire.

3. They shook hands without speaking, She made room for Philip and his luggage amidst the loud indignation of the unsuccessful driver, whom it required the combined eloquence of the stationmaster and the station beggar to confute. The silence was prolonged until they started. for three days he had been considering what he should do, and still more what he should say. He had invented a dozen imaginary conversations, In all of which his logic and eloquence procured him certain victory. But how to begin? He was in the enemy's country, and everything-the hot sun, the cold air behind the heat. the endless rows of olive-trees. regular yet mysterious-seemed hostile to the placid atmosphere of Saws ton in which his thoughts took birth.

(Adapted from *Where Angels Fear to Tread* by EH Forster)

On the basis of your reading or the above passage, complete the statements given below with the help of options that Follow.

(a) Philip was able to reach Monteriano with the help of

- (i) His co-passengers
- (ii) the legno driver
- (iii) Miss Abbott
- (iv) his own commonsense

(b) Miss Abbott proclaimed that she wanted to.....

- (i) Go to Swaston
- (ii) persuade the vicar
- (iii) Go to Italy just once
- (iv) read books about Italy

Answer the following questions briefly.

- (c) What was the state of mind of Philip when he got clown on the platform?
- (d) Why did Miss Abbott come hurrying down to the station?
- (e) What facts do we gather about Miss Abbott from the passage?
- (f) What was the dilemma faced by Philip in the presence of Miss Abbott?
- (g) What does the expression 'John Bull' indicate?
- (h) Why did they not speak while shaking hands?
- (i) Find the words from the passage which mean the same as:
 - (i) To prove something or somebody wrong (para 3)
 - (ii) Agreeable, friendly (para 2)

3. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

The day the child is born, the parents dream of making it a doctor, an engineer, an architect, or an IAS. As the child develops, the hopes and aspirations of parents also develop. They want to see their children earning a handsome amount of money.

Having an ideal career is a dream for all and as parents of a teenager, thoughts of your child's career may not be very far from your mind. Most youngsters at that age, however, wrongly believe that they are at the beginning of their career path. But they have been on that road for years—their school studies, recreational activities and hobbies help a child gravitate towards its interests. These interests must drive their ambitions. Gone are the days when one began and ended one's professional career at the same job. Getting a job is no longer as important as choosing the right career path—one that promises more personal satisfaction and growth, and, of course, earnings that will let them live a good life. So making a wise choice becomes all the more important. Developing a keen self-knowledge is essential to making the right career decisions. But all youngsters are not so self-aware. In fact many of them admit that they need help in planning their careers. Inexperienced, unsure and ill-informed, young people must turn to others for help. And though career counselors at school are helpful, experts agree that parents are the number one influence on a child's choice of career. Sadly many parents are not themselves very sure about how best they can help. Many parents mistakenly try to "tell" kids - directly or indirectly - about the kind of expectations they have with regard to the child's choice of career. The chances are that the child ends up following its parents' dream, not its own, will not be a happy, satisfied professional in its adult life. A child relies on information from peers when it comes to career options. But a parent has many options to get and pass on details about various career options. Parents must guide their wards and allow them to make an informed decision," says S.C. Moha, executive director of the All India Management Association (AIMA).

- (a) **On the basis of your reading or the above passage, make notes using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary (minimum 4). Use a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it.**
- (b) **Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words**

SECTION B - WRITING SKILLS

4. Draft a matrimonial advertisement for your elder sister to be published in a local daily. You need an IT professional settled abroad. (Word limit: 50)

Or

Your school is going to organize a blood donation camp next week. Write a notice in about 50 words to invite the volunteers for this camp. You are the Head Boy of Prakriti International School, Delhi.

5. You are Pawan Junelia, staying at R – 535, Rajinder Nagar, New delhi. Two month Back you bought a Telephone Answering System with Facsimile from the Electronic World, 33, Daryaganj, New Delhi. with a warranty of 2 years. Now you discover that the machine doesn't record the callers' message I and the screen also remains blank. Write a letter of complaint requesting for replacement, if needed. I (Word limit: 120-150

You purchased a new refrigerator last month. But it is not functioning properly since the day one and causing one problem or another. You have also complained about it but no action has been taken. Write a letter to the Regional Manager to replace it, You are Sultan/Sultana, 245, Gangotri Apartments, Vasudha Enclave, Kolkata.

As Shreya/Shrey write an article on 'Junk the Junk Food' to create an awareness among children that junk food is unhealthy and unhygienic. (Word limit: 15-200)

Or

Your school is celebrating Gandhi Jayanti on 2 October and you are given the task of delivering a speech on Gandhiji. Write the speech in 150-200 words.

7. Growing violence among children has become a disturbing trend. The newspaper is filled with incidents in schools, colleges and outside. Concerned about this, you as school Head Boy, invite students to debate on the topic "Growing violence among children", As a participant, write that debate in 150-200 words. You are Rakhee/Rakesh.

Or

A new indoor gymnasium has recently been constructed and inaugurated at St. John's School, Bengaluru. As' a special correspondent of 'The Hindu', draft a report in 150-200 words on the gymnasium and the inauguration ceremony.

SECTION C - LITERATURE TEXTBOOKS AND LONG READING TEXT

8. Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow:

On sour cream walls, donations. Shakespeare's head;
Cloudless at dawn, civilized dome riding all cities.
Belled, flowery, Tyrolese valley. Open-handed map
Awarding the world its world. And yet. for these
Children. These windows, not this map. their world,
Where all their future's painted with a fog,

A narrow street sealed in with a lead sky
Far far from rivers, capes and stars of words.

- (a) Name the poem and the poet.
- (b) Why are the walls of the classroom referred to as 'sour cream'?
- (c) What are the walls of the classroom adorned with?
- (d) What are the poet's feelings about the adornment on the walls? Why?

Q. 9- Driving from my parent's
home to Cochin last Friday
morning, I saw my mother
beside me,
doze. open mouthed, her face
ashen like that ...

- (a) Who is 'I'? Where was 'I' going?
- (b) What did the poet realize all of a sudden?
- (c) How has the mother's face been described?
- (d) Name the poem and the poet.

Q. 10- Answer of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each.

- a) How did the author become a swimmer finally?
- b) Is the title of the story 'The Rattrap' Justified?
- c) What are the item that Aunt Jennifer is embroidering? What do they signify?
- d) What are the parting words of the poet? What do they Signify?
- e) How did Jo want the story of Roger Skunk to end?
- f) Do you think that Evans was very clever? Give an example.

Answer the following questions in 120 – 150 Words.

Q. 11 - A real politician is like a scientist, Who first observe the pain of people thoroughly, visits the places shrouded in problems from the system, meets with the local people, discusses and records the genesis of the problem. Carries on a thorough study of the law and then acts for addressing the problem. In view of this, enumerate Gandhi's modus operandi as narrated in the lesson 'Indigo'

Q. 12 - What are the dreams and aspirations of Saheb – e – Alam? What does he face in Reality?

Q. 13 -How does humanity dominate patriotism as per message given in the lesson 'The Enemy'?

Q. 14 - Describe the Maharaja's encounter with the first tiger. What orders had he given then then? Why?

Q. 15. Compare and contrast Griffin and Kemp. Why did Kemp turn out differently than Griffin? After All, they're both scientists. Is Kemp less isolated than Griffin?

Q. 16. Why was kemp perplexed by the newspaper reports? What was his reaction?