



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR
ASSESSMENT 1 - (2024-25)
SUBJECT – ENGLISH (ANS. KEY)

Class: XI
Date: 17/09/2024

Maximum Marks: 80
Time allowed: 3Hours

General Instructions:

- (i) *This paper is divided into three sections:*

<i>Section A- Reading</i>	<i>26 marks</i>
<i>Section B- Grammar & Writing</i>	<i>23 marks</i>
<i>Section C- Literature</i>	<i>31 marks</i>
- (ii) *All questions are compulsory.*
- (iii) *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.*
- (iv) *Avoid using correction fluid.*

SECTION A: READING SKILLS (26 marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully.

1. I know many friends of mine who drink coffee regularly but do not know that coffee exists in different forms other than instant coffee. There are many who swear by Flora cafe classic or Coco gold, which they consider as premium coffee. It may sound offensive but instant coffee is not the only way; in fact, it's a very bad way of making coffee! Instant coffee cannot match up to brewed coffee's flavour nor does it have Arabica beans. It uses Robusta beans that are lower in flavour. To know more about it just read on...

2. That plant might be a genius! It created a chemical that would keep pests away. Fortunately for us and unfortunately for the plant - that plan did not work the way it was intended to. The chemical might have averted a few pest attacks, but attracted a far greater threat - human beings. The plant I am talking about is coffee and the chemical is caffeine.

3. To begin from the beginning - coffee is from a more mature part of the tree - the seed - unlike other stimulants. The ripe berry is picked and de-pulped leaving us with a seed called 'green bean' or 'green coffee'. Green bean is uncharacteristically bland with a taste nowhere close to that of coffee, but it is valued for its higher antioxidant levels.

4. It's an interesting phenomenon to see how this bland green bean turns to a flavourful coffee bean. Coffee bean is a seed and like any other seed, it is rich in proteins, fats and all necessary ingredients for giving birth to a new plant. When exposed to heat, the fats and carbohydrates in the bean turn into essential oils, which give the characteristic taste and aroma to the coffee bean. The degree of roasting depends on the need or purpose of use.

5. These beans are ground so that the surface area of the bean is increased, which makes extraction easier. The bean can be ground or crushed but making the particles uniform will ensure equal extraction or else the smaller particle will get over extracted and the larger one

will remain under extracted. Hence, the burr grinder is used to ensure that the coffee bean gets ground in a uniform way in which all particles are of similar sizes.

6. Does under extraction give a lighter coffee and over extraction a stronger one? No. For a lighter or stronger coffee less or more coffee powder has to be used. Why? Under extraction will not get all the flavours of the coffee as the water runs too quickly. It will not get what you want - it will taste sour. Over - extraction will bring out all unnecessary flavours rendering the taste bitter.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below: (1 × 10 = 10 marks)

i. Identify the following sentence as **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

The author complained that his friends consumed only Flora Classics. (False)

ii. Comment on the writer's reference to the unique feature of a coffee plant. (Paragraph 2)

Coffee plant produces a chemical known as caffeine that acts as a natural pesticide.

iii. List the reason why the author refers to humans as 'great threat to coffee' plants.

The writer refers to the unique feature of the coffee plant, which is its ability to produce caffeine as a chemical to protect itself from pests. However, this feature has unintended consequences as humans consume coffee for its caffeine content, which has both positive and negative effects on the human body. The chemical secreted by coffee averts the pests but with passing time, it attracted humans who get addicted to it and become great threat to coffee plants.

iv. Select an option that conveys the same meaning as 'energizer' from words used in (Paragraph 3).

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| (a) bland | (b) mature |
| (c) antioxidant | (d) stimulants |

v. Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference with respect to the following:

Fats and carbohydrates turn into essential oils leading to the characteristic taste and aroma of coffee beans.

vi. Comment on the writer's reference to the interesting phenomenon in (paragraph 4).

The interesting phenomenon discussed in paragraph 4 is of changing the bland green seed of a coffee plant into a flavourful coffee bean.

vii. Over extraction does not give a stronger coffee. Based on your understanding of (paragraph 6), list one method to get stronger coffee.

It depends on the quantity of the coffee powder. For a lighter or stronger coffee, less or more coffee powder is to be used.

viii. The writer would not agree with the given statements based on (paragraph 5) **EXCEPT ?**

(a) The burr grinder grinds coffee beans uniformly.

- (b) Less surface area makes extraction easier.
- (c) Grinding gives stronger aroma.
- (d) Good coffee is a mix of smaller and bigger particles.

ix. Why is it fair to say that the right degree of extraction of coffee is important?

It is fair to say that the right degree of extraction of coffee is important because under extraction will not get all flavours of the coffee, as the water runs too quickly, and on the other hand over extraction will make the coffee bitter.

x. Select the most suitable title of the above passage.

(a) The Art of Coffee Making

(b) Benefits of Consuming Coffee

(c) Green Coffee - The perfect antioxidant

(d) The Coffee Addict

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

1. News - If you can't remember the last time, you saw a teenager reading a book, newspaper or magazine, you're not alone. In recent years, less than 20 percent of teens report reading a book, magazine or newspaper daily for pleasure. More than 80 percent say they use social media every day, according to research published by the World Psychological Association.

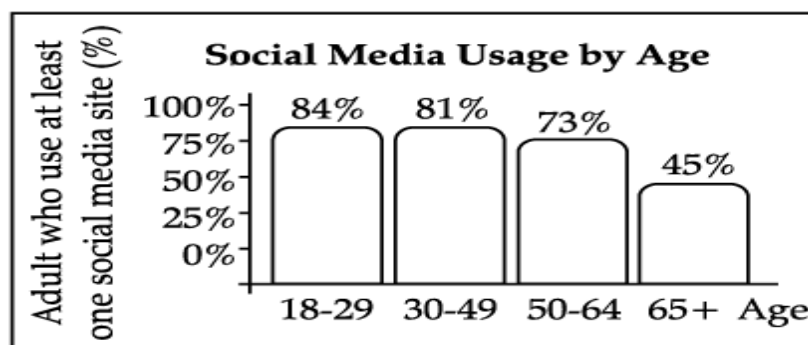
2. "Compared with previous generations, teens in the 2010s spent more time online and less time with traditional media, such as books, magazines and television," said lead author of the book YGen and professor of psychology at ABC University. "Time on digital media has displaced the time that was once spent enjoying a book or watching TV."

3. Swaner and her colleagues analyses data concluded from an ongoing study of a nationally representative sample of approximately 50,000 eighth, tenth and twelfth grade students annually. They looked at survey results from 1976 to 2016, representing more than 1 million teenagers. While the study started with only twelfth - graders in the 1970s, eighth and tenth - graders were added in 1991.

4. Use of digital media increased substantially from 2006 to 2016. Among twelfth-graders, internet use during leisure time doubled from one to two hours per day during that period. It also increased 75 percent for tenth-graders and 68 percent for eighth-graders.

5. "In the mid- 2010s, the average twelfth-grader reported spending approximately two hours a day texting, just over two hours a day on the internet - which included gaming - and just under two hours a day on social media," said Swaner. That's a total of about six hours per day on just three digital media activities during their leisure time.

6. In comparison, tenth-graders reported a total of five hours per day and eighth-graders reported four hours per day on those three digital activities. Consequently, the spent time in the digital world is seriously degrading the time they spend on more traditional media such as print book and newspapers.



7. The decline in reading print media was especially steep. In the early 1990s, 33 percent of tenth-graders said they read a newspaper almost every day. By 2016, that number was only 2 percent. In the late 1970s, 60 percent of twelfth-graders said they read a book or a magazine almost every day; by 2016, only 16 percent did. Twelfth-graders also reported reading fewer books each year in 2016 compared to how much they read in 1976 and approximately one-third did not read a book (including e-books) for pleasure in the year prior to the 2016 survey.

8. There's no lack of intelligence among young people. However, due to over dependence on digital media they find it difficult to focus for long periods of time and to read long-form text. Subsequently they find it challenging to understand complex issues and develop critical thinking skills.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:
(1x 8 = 8 marks)

i. Does the following statement agree with the information given in (paragraph 1)?

The writer believes that very few teens indulge in reading as a pleasurable activity. Select from the following:

True: if the statement agrees with the information.

False: if the statement contradicts the information.

Not given: if there is no information on this.

ii. Complete the statement based on the following statement:

Traditional media has been replaced by digital media. We can say this because young people today are more dependent on digital media.

iii. Do you think that the researchers added tenth and eighth graders to the survey deliberately? Support your answer with reference to the text.

Yes, the researchers added tenth and eighth graders to the survey deliberately. This is stated in paragraph 3, which says, "While the study started with only twelfth-graders in the 1970s, eighth- and tenth-graders were added in 1991."

iv. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option:

The concluding sentence of the text makes a clear case for _____ by listing it as a core competency for analysis and application.

- (a) following social media
(c) **building focus and concentration**

- (b) reading long texts
(d) developing constructive habits

v. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option:

The digital activities that the twelfth-graders indulge in are _____.

- (a) texting, gaming, television
(c) newspaper, books, magazine

- (b) **texting, gaming, social media**
(d) television, books, gaming

vi. Based on the reading of the text, the percentage of people above 50 years is _____ the percentage of teenagers using social media.

Less than

vii. Identify whether the following statements are **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

- a. 'By degrading the time' in para 2, the author means 'waste of time'. **False**
b. Teens today hardly read print media for pleasure. **True**

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

1. Despite all the research every one of us catches cold and most of us catch it frequently. Our failure to control one of the commonest of all ailments sometimes seems ridiculous. Medical science regularly practises transplant surgery and has rid whole countries of such killing diseases as Typhus and the Plague. But the problem of common cold is unusually difficult and much has yet to be done to solve it. It is known that a cold is caused by one of a number of viral infections that affect the lining of the nose and other passages leading to the lungs but the confusing variety of viruses makes study and remedy very difficult. It was shown in 1960 that many typical colds in adults are caused by one or the other of a family of viruses known as rhinoviruses, yet there still remain many colds for which no virus has as yet been isolated.

2. There is also the difficulty that because they are so much smaller than the bacteria which cause many other infections, viruses cannot be seen with ordinary microscopes. Nor can they be cultivated easily in the bacteriologist's laboratory, since they only grow within the living cells of animals or plants. An important recent step forward, however, is the development of the technique of tissue culture, in which bits of animal tissue are enabled to go on living and to multiply independently in the body. This has greatly aided virus research and has led to the discovery of a large number of viruses. Their existence had previously been not only unknown but even unsuspected.

3. The fact that we can catch a cold repeatedly creates another difficulty. Usually, a virus strikes only once and leaves the victim immune to further attacks. Still, we do not gain immunity from colds. Why? It may possibly be due to the fact that while other viruses get into the bloodstream where anti-bodies can oppose them, the viruses causing cold attack cells only on the surface. Or it may be that immunity from one of the many different viruses does not guarantee protection from all the others. It seems, therefore, that we are likely to have to suffer colds for some time yet.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it, using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary-minimum four) and the suitable format. Also supply an appropriate title to it. **(5 marks)**

(a) NOTE MAKING Distribution of Marks Title:

1 mark Abbreviations / Symbols (with /without key) – any four:

1 mark Content (minimum 4 headings and sub-headings, with proper indentation and notes): 2marks If a student has attempted only summary or only notes, due credit should be given. **1 mark** allotted for the title be given if a student has written the title. **Content must be divided into heading and sub headings. Any title, main points and sub points may be accepted if they are indicative of the candidate's understanding of the given passage, and the notes include the main points, with suitable and recognizable abbreviations. Complete sentences not to be accepted as notes. (In such cases $\frac{1}{2}$ –1 mark may be deducted from marks awarded to content) Numbering of points may be indicated in different ways, as long as a consistent pattern is followed.**

Answer:

Title: NO CONTROL OVER COMMON COLD

1. How to control common cold

1.1 No cure to control it

1.2 Cure avail, for Typhus & Plague

1.3 It is a viral infec. that affects nose-lining

1.4 Caused by fmly. of viruses called Rhinoviruses

1.5 Prob. of com. cold not yet solved

2. Problems of identifying viruses:

2.1 Smaller than bacteria can't be seen in microscopes

2.2 Cannot be cultivated in lab.

2.3 grows within living cells of plants & animals.

2.4 has led to the discovery of large no. of viruses

2.5 their existence previously unknown and unsuspected

3. No immunity from cold

3.1 viruses causing cold attacks only on surface & not bloodstream

3.2 cannot be opposed by anti-bodies

3.3 imm. from one virus doesn't guarantee protection from all

3.4 you hv to suffer from cold for some more time

♦ List of Abbreviations

Eff. – effective

com. – common

& – and

avail. – available

prob. – problem

infec. – infection

fmly. – family
lab. – laboratory
Dev. – development
no. – number
imm. – immunity

(b) Write a summary of the passage in about 50 words.

(3 marks)

Summary: NO CONTROL OVER COMMON COLD

Despite having the cure to killing diseases like Typhus and Plague it seems ridiculous that medical science has not done much yet to solve the problem of common cold. This is because the study of viruses remains confusing as they cannot be seen with ordinary microscopes. Now with the development of the technique of tissue culture a large number of viruses have been discovered whose existence was earlier unknown. We keep catching cold and never become immune to it because the viruses causing cold attack only on the surface unlike other viruses that get into the bloodstream and so can be opposed by anti-bodies.

SECTION B –GRAMMAR AND CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS- (23 Marks).

4. Convert the following sentences to reported speech. Attempt any THREE. (3 marks)

a. The doctor asked: "Do you ever feel this pain in your stomach before meals?"

The doctor asked me if I ever felt that pain in my stomach before meals.

b. A farmer said: "If the situation goes on like this, we will lose the consumers' confidence for ever".

A farmer said that if the situation went on like that they would lose the consumers' confidence for ever.

c. "Where did you spend your holidays last year?" she asked me.

She asked me where I had spent my holidays the year before.

d. The spokesman said: "I can't understand why billiards has been prohibited."

The spokesman said that he couldn't understand why billiards had been prohibited.

5. Fill the blanks with the correct form of the tenses given in the bracket. Attempt any TWO:
(1 x 2 = 2 marks)

Very few people (a) _____ loneliness. It seems to me that most people (b) _____ scared of (c) _____ left on their own.

(a) **(i) enjoy** (ii) enjoys (iii) enjoyed (iv) enjoying

(b) (i) is (ii) am **(iii) are** (iv) was

(c) (i) be **(ii) being** (iii) been (iv) having

6. Rearrange the following jumbled words to form meaningful sentences. Attempt any TWO.
(2 x 1 = 2 marks)

a. at/ top /voice,/ the /man /his /of /demanded/ the/ admission /shouting

Shouting at the top of his voice, the man demanded admission.

b. has been fuelled/ by growing awareness/ the demand/ health benefits/ coconut water /of

The demand has been fuelled by growing awareness of coconut water's health benefits.

c. fit and / the body / games / look active / and / develop / keep it / make a person

Games develop the body, keep it fit and make a person look active.

7. Attempt ANY ONE of the two in about 50 words:

(4 marks)

You are Vikram/Sonia, a graduate in history with specialization in Medieval India. You are well acquainted with places of historical interest in Delhi, Agra and Jaipur. You are looking for the job of tourist guide. Write an advertisement in about 50 words for the situation wanted column of a local newspaper.

Format: 1 mark

Content :2 marks

Expression: grammatical accuracy, spellings: 1 mark

OR

You are the General Manager of Ivy Software Solutions, Agra Cantt, Agra. You need a software engineer for your organization. Draft an advertisement to be published in 'The Times of India' under the classified columns.

SITUATION VACANT

Wanted software engineer for Ivy Software Solutions, a leading name in computers. Candidate should possess a Master's Degree in Computer Software Programming and at least 3 years experience with a known computer concern. Remuneration no constraint for suitable candidate. Apply with detailed resume within ten days to General Manager, Ivy Software Solutions, Agra Cantt, Agra.

8. Attempt ANY ONE of the two in about 50 words:

(4 marks)

Open drains are death traps, risky for old persons and children. They are also breeding grounds for rats, cockroaches etc. Design a poster highlighting the danger of open drains in not more than 50 words.

Title -1 mark

Content: 3 marks

name of issuing authority

reasons- remedial measures (if relevant)

Date, Time, Venue (if relevant) Any other relevant information.

BEWARE!!!
... OF THE RISING DANGER AND MENACE OF
OPEN DRAINS

- Death traps
- Breeding grounds for rats, cockroaches, mosquitoes, etc.
- Health risks
- Chemical pollution
- Risky for old persons and children

Issued in Public Interest by:
Department of Health
Government of India

OR

Your locality has started a Readers' Club for the benefit of the children, adult and old. Prepare a suitable poster for display in the colony.

ANUPAM GROUP HOUSING SOCIETY, JAIPUR
announces
the foundation of
READERS' CLUB
 at
COMMUNITY CENTRE

<i>Time</i>	: 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
<i>Membership fee</i>	: One current magazine

For details Contact:
A.P. Gupta
Secretary

Be a Member
today!

9. Attempt ANY ONE of the two in about 120-150 words: (8 marks)

The state is celebrating tourism week. One of the leading citizens is requested to give a short speech on tourism in the state. Study the information below. Then, using this information, together with your own ideas, write a speech stressing the importance of tourism. Make a few practical suggestions to improve the tourism industry in the state.



IMPORTANCE OF TOURISM

Respected Chairperson and distinguished guests!

Tourism is a thriving business for earning valuable foreign exchange as well as providing an opportunity for cultural exchange and generating employment. India has a rich heritage of art, sculpture, music, dance and drama. Many European countries have promoted tourism as a trade. In some countries it is run like an industry. We, in India, are running it in a non-professional or amateurish manner as is evident from the troughs in the graph of domestic as well as foreign tourists. It is high time we regarded travel and tourism as an industry and launched action plans to accelerate the growth of tourism. A nodal financial institution catering to the specific needs of tourism industry should be established.

The main stumbling blocks in the development of tourism at present are lack of infrastructure, inadequate ways of reaching hotels, tourist sites, gateways, etc., paucity in the number of coaches and cars (specially air-conditioned ones), ill-maintained roads. Conferences, cultural exchanges, tourism exchanges, leisure trips, education trips, holiday trips or business trips should be segregated and facilities available be publicized as an attractive package.

The need and aspirations of the various categories of tourists should be carefully analysed and adhered to in the sphere of accommodation, food, entertainment and guided tours. Last but not the least the hotel industry should adopt a business-like attitude in greeting and sending off the visitors with a smile. Give them a pleasant experience and prepare them to undertake a repeat visit soon.

Thank you.

OR

Peer pressure is useful for the development of an individual. If there is no peer pressure at all then there would be no goal or aim to succeed. Write a speech on the topic - 'Is Peer Pressure Beneficial or Not?'

Format :1 mark

- topic introduction, addressing the audience, mention for /against the motion

Content: 3 marks

– use hints, addressing the issue, current situation, reasons in favour or against, possible suggestions

Expression :1 mark

Grammatical accuracy, appropriate words and spelling [1½]

Coherence and relevance of ideas and style [1½]

SECTION C – LITERATURE (31 MARKS)

10. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given:
(3 x 1 = 3 marks)

*'She enters the thickness, and a machine starts up
Of chittering, and a tremor of wings, and trilling-
The whole tree trembles and thrills'*

- a. How do the baby goldfinch birds react at the arrival of the mother goldfinch bird?
The baby goldfinch birds chatter shake their bodies
- b. **Inner part of the Laburnum top in general and the branch on which the goldfinch sits in particular** is referred to here in the extract as ‘thickness.’
- c. Identify the figure of speech – ‘*The whole tree trembles and thrills*’
 - i. simile
 - ii. metaphor
 - iii. personification**
 - iv. anaphora

OR

*‘My mother’s, that was before I was born
And the sea, which appears to have changed less
Washed their terribly transient feet.’*

- a. When did this incident take place?
This incident took place when the narrator was twelve years old.
- b. Assertion: the sea in the photograph remains the same.
Reason: the sea touched the girls’ feet in the picture.
i. Assertion is true, reason is the correct explanation.
 - ii. Assertion is true, reason is not the correct explanation.
 - iii. Assertion is true but reason is false.
 - iv. Assertion and reason are false.
- c. The narrator’s mother was **on the sea shore with her cousins and posing** for a photograph.

11. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given:
(3 x 1 = 3 marks)

The boy king soon changed his name to Tutankhamun, ‘living image of Amun,’ and oversaw a restoration of the old ways. He reigned for about nine years — and then died unexpectedly. Regardless of his fame and the speculations about his fate, Tut is one mummy among many in Egypt. How many? No one knows. The Egyptian Mummy Project, which began an inventory in late 2003, has recorded almost 600 so far and is still counting.

- a. Why has the phrase ‘boy king’ been used for Tut?
He was very young when he became king
- b. Two questions still remain unanswered. Those are **how he died** and **how old was he at the time of death** regarding death of king Tut.
- c. Answer TRUE or FALSE.

Tut’s body was buried in the month of January. (**False**)

OR

With land under my feet again, my thoughts were full of Larry and Herbie, cheerful and optimistic under the direct stress, and of Mary, who stayed at the wheels for all those crucial hours. Most of all, I thought of a seven – year – old girl, who did not want us to worry about a head injury (which subsequently took six minor operations to remove a recurring blood clot between skin and skull), and of a six-year-old boy who was not afraid to die.

a. Where did the narrator reach after surviving the storm?

i. Ile Amsterdam, a French scientific base.

ii. Cape Town, a French base

iii. Gales, a French scientific base

iv. Ile Amsterdam, a scientific base

b. The word ‘recurring’ as used in the extract means **happening again**

c. Who steered the boat at the crucial time? **Mary**

12. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given:

(4 x 1 = 4 marks)

“I would swear it is my horse if I didn’t know your parents. The fame of your family for honesty is well known to me. Yet the horse is the twin of my horse. A suspicious man would believe his eyes instead of his heart. Good day, my young friends.”

a. Answer True or False.

The horse’s owner refused to believe that the boys had stolen his horse because his horse had a twin. **FALSE**

b. “A suspicious man would believe his eyes instead of his heart.” In what context was this observation made and by whom?

This observation was made by farmer John Byro after looking into the mouth of the horse. It matched his horse tooth for tooth. He would have claimed it as his own horse if he had not known their parents or the fame of their family for honesty. The resemblance was so striking that he called it the twin of his horse.

c. The synonym of ‘suspicious’ as used in the extract is **wary/ untrusting/ mistrustful**.

d. The story teaches the importance of _____ even in the face of greed.

i. charity

ii. honesty

iii. sincerity

iv. purity

OR

And one day I noticed I was curious about all the possessions that must still be at that address. I wanted to see them, touch, remember. After my first visit in vain to Mrs. Dorling’s house I decided to try a second time. Now a girl of about fifteen opened the door to me. I asked her if her mother was at home. “No”, she said, ‘my mother’s doing an errand,’ “No matter, I said, ‘I’ll wait for her.

- a. Assertion: The narrator was horrified in the room during her second visit.
Reason: The room was filled with unfamiliar items.
- Both assertion and reason are true, and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.
 - Both Assertion and Reason are false.
 - Assertion is true, but reason is false.**
 - Both assertion and reason are true, but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.
- b. Which ‘possessions’ is the author talking about?
Things taken away by Mrs. Dorling.
- c. The phrase ‘in vain’ has been used in the extract. Which of the following is an incorrect use of the phrase ‘in vain’?
- He tried in vain to stop the water flow
 - I tried in vain to escape several times from jail
 - my first request was in vain
 - my first computer was in vain**
- d. The story is a poignant account of a daughter who goes in search of her mother’s belongings after the war, in Holland.

13. Answer ANY TWO of the following four questions in about 40-50 words:
(3 x 2 = 6 marks)

- a. Mention three reasons why the author’s grandmother was disturbed when he started going to the city school.

The author’s grandmother was unhappy after knowing that the things taught to him at school were related to western science and learning. Secondly, she did not believe such things that were taught at his new school. She was disturbed that there was no teaching about God and scriptures. Thirdly, she was unhappy with the idea of music lessons being given at school. She considered music suitable only for the people with low dignity. The disapproval of the grandmother was visible in her silence.

- b. Explain- “Both wry with the laboured ease of loss.”

The coming together of two opposite ideas to describe the same entity. ‘Laboured’ and ‘ease’ are opposite words describing the same entity ‘losses.’ The loss of the holiday and the laughter was easy because these things have to be accepted as a part of life. They are merely a part of the past and cannot be brought back or relived. However, precisely because they cannot be relived, there will always be a tinge of difficulty letting them go completely. They will always be seen as loss.

- c. What preparations did the narrator and his wife make for their round-the-world sea voyage?

The narrator and his wife wanted to ‘duplicate’ the round-the-world voyage made 200 years ago by Captain James Cook. They had been making formidable preparations for the last 16 years. First, they got ‘Wavewalker’ a boat especially designed and professionally built for this purpose. They tested it for months in the roughest weather. They spent all their leisure time in strengthening their seafaring skills in British waters. They were both mentally and physically prepared to undertake their exceptionally long and challenging sea voyage.

- d. How had King Tut been lavished by the royals when he was buried?

King Tut had been lavished with glittering goods. These were precious collars, necklaces, bracelets, rings, amulets, a ceremonial apron, sandals, sheaths, etc. All these things including the coffin was made of pure gold. It was believed that he would take them with him in his journey beyond after death.

14. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 40-50 words:

(3 x 1 = 3 marks)

a. Describe the narrator's experience when he rode the white horse alone?

The narrator had a frightful experience when he rode the horse alone. He leapt to the back of the horse but it did not move. As advised by Mourad, he kicked into the muscles of the horse. It reared and snorted and then began to run. It ran down the road to a vineyard and leapt over the vines. As it leapt over the seventh vine the narrator fell off the horse. The horse continued running.

b. What were the narrator's feelings initially about the things that had been left with Mrs. Dorling?

The narrator was not interested in claiming the things that were stored with Mrs. Dorling as 'the things' were lifeless possessions. They were not important as dear and loved ones whom she had lost during the war. Her mother did not survive after the war. Moreover, she was afraid that they would remind her of her past.

15. Answer ANY ONE out of two questions: -

(1x 6 = 6 marks)

a. How does the poem express the sentiment of co-dependency? How do the laburnum and the goldfinch help each other? Elaborate.

The bond between a goldfinch and a tree is described in the poem "The Laburnum Top" by Ted Hughes. The entire tree, an integral aspect of its symbiotic relationship with the bird. The laburnum and the goldfinch have important interrelationships because the tree protects the bird and her young ones while the goldfinch gives the tree a life. The "quiet" and seemingly lifeless laburnum tree is fading in the early autumn at the beginning of the poem:

"In the afternoon yellow September sunlight,
A few leaves yellowing, all its seeds fallen."

This European plant blends in with the sunshine and is also known as a Golden Chain Tree or Golden Rain Tree for its dangling yellow blossoms. The deciduous tree's drying ("yellowing") leaves and cast-off seeds indicate its increasing dormancy.

"She enters the thickness, and a machine starts up
Of chittering, and a tremor of wings, and trilling—
The whole tree trembles and thrills.
It is the engine of her family.
She stokes it full."

b. The grandmother herself was not formally educated but was serious about the author's education. How does the text support this?

The grandmother was not formally educated but was serious about the author's education. She could read the scriptures. She realized the value of education and did not let the author miss school. She woke him up each morning, bathed him, dressed him, plastered his wooden slate, gave him breakfast and walked him to school where he was taught the alphabet and morning prayers. While he sat in the veranda learning, the grandmother read her scriptures. In

the city, she could not accompany him to school as he went by the school bus. He was now in an English school, where they taught science. She could not understand English and did not believe in science. The fact that they were not taught about God made her unhappy. Khushwant Singh's music lessons in school upset her over its lewd associations. She took an interest in the author's education.

16. Answer ANY ONE out of two questions: -

(1x 6 = 6 marks)

a. Comment on the significance of the title of the story, 'The Address'.

The title of the story 'The Address' is quite apt. It is the spring wheel of the action. In fact, the whole action centers round it. The title is quite suggestive and occurs at the beginning, middle and end of the story. Marga Minco focuses the reader's attention on it by the narrator's doubt whether she was mistaken and her self-assurance that she had reached the correct address. The middle part of the story reveals how she came to know the address. It was her mother who informed her about the place where Mrs. Dorling lived and asked her to remember it. The story ends dramatically with the narrator's resolve to forget the address. The wheel comes full circle. She had remembered the address for so many years and now since the belongings of her mother stored there have lost their usefulness, she finds that forgetting this address would be quite easy.

b. Narrate the story of the stolen white horse in not more than 100 words.

Mourad woke up his cousin Aram early in the morning. Aram jumped out of bed, unable to believe his eyes. He noticed Mourad riding on the back of a white horse. He was certain that Mourad had stolen the horse. Anyway, he went on a joyride with his cousin. Mourad hid it in Fetvajian's deserted vineyard barn. He warned Aram not to tell anyone that they had started riding that morning in case they were discovered. The horse, in fact, belonged to John Byro who spoke about it in Aram's house. Aram then informed Mourad about Byro. They continued riding for another two weeks. They ran into John Byro, who recognized his horse. But Mourad told a white lie about his horse's name being My Heart. Because he claimed to know their family so well, John Byro pretended to believe them. Their family was well-known for its candor. He did, however, return the horse to Byro the next morning.

.....