



ANGEL'S PUBLIC SCHOOL

SAMPLE PAPER

HALF YEARLY EXAM SESSION 2024 – 25

CLASS – X

TIME: 3 HRS

SUBJECT : ENGLISH CODE – 301

M.M:80

General instructions.

- All the questions are compulsory.
- You may attempt any section at a time.
- All the questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

This question paper is divided into three sections.

Section	A	–	Reading	–	20
Section	B	–	Writing and Grammar	–	20
Section	C	–	Literature	–	40

SECTION – A (READING)

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

[20]
(10)

FOOD WASTAGE IN INDIA

- As the Indian middle class is getting more affluent, the number of celebration parties is growing and so is the guest list. We have functions for birth celebration, first birthday celebration, engagements, marriages, promotions, sixtieth birthdays, marriage jubilees and even retirement party. Lot of people get invited to each of these.
- Just inviting people to such celebrations is not a problem. Because if a person eats at one place, he/she would save food he/she would have eaten somewhere else. The problem is, there is no RSVP (which is a French abbreviation that stands for 'Reply, if you please') culture in India. We send invites, but we don't ask people whether they are planning to attend or not. The host does not get any feedback and has a vague idea of how many people will show up. Certainly if more people showed up unexpectedly and had no food to eat, it would be embarrassing. So they just end up making enough for a large number of people. This results in wastage of food, cooking gas and manpower. And because electricity is costly and food storage equipment is not so easily available, huge amount of food goes waste.
- Then we have people offering food and oil to gods. While so many people are going hungry, we are bathing idols of our gods in milk, honey or oil. We throw rice on the couple in marriages. There is also a lot of wastage in how we get our food. The last end of our food and vegetable supply chains are street vendors, who lack adequate infrastructure to store food to reduce waste.
- Our best of the best software engineers are writing software to run banks in US and Europe. Can't we launch a website that makes it possible for people to reply to invites using an easy, online or mobile based application? Yes, we need this one change in our culture – replying to invites and confirming whether we can make it to the celebration or not. Best of the best MBAs are launching marketing campaigns worldwide to increase market share of consumer products worldwide. Can't we launch a cultural change campaign?
- We make choices and every choice has consequences. Sadly when faced with consequences of our choices, we externalize the blame. We find someone else to fault. We imagine only of that evil outside somewhere is fixed, we the pious people would continue living our pristine and perfect lives.

6. If we saved all this food, it would suddenly make extra food available, thereby reducing food demand and eventually reducing food prices.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best option.

1. Choose an option that **BEST** summarizes the main idea of paragraph 1.

- (a) Indian middle class is getting more affluent. (c) Indian middle class loves to celebrate.
(b) Indian middle class loves to feast at parties. (d) Indian middle class wastes a lot of food.

2. Which of the following is **NOT** a part of the problem the author discusses in paragraph 2?

- (a) The absence of RSVP in Indian invites
(b) Inviting people to celebrations
(c) Uncertainty about the exact number of guests who would attend a party
(d) A lot of food, cooking fuel and manpower goes waste

3. A possible embarrassing situation mentioned in paragraph 2 is

- (a) invitees not sending their responses to RSVP
(b) sudden appearance of more guests than there is food for
(c) lack of food storage equipment at parties
(d) huge amount of food going waste

4. Which of the following is **NOT** among the examples of food wastage listed by the author in paragraph 3?

- (a) Offering food and oil to idols of gods and bathing them in milk, honey or oil
(b) Throwing rice on the couples getting married
(c) Vegetable and fruit vendors not having food storage capabilities
(d) Guests filling their plates with more food than they can possibly eat

5. Select the option that suitably completes the dialogue with reference to paragraph 3.

A: It's such a pity that a lot of food goes waste for want of (i) with street vendors.

B: Well, don't worry. I'm currently busying developing (ii) this problem.

- (a) (i) government support, (ii) a government scheme to end
(b) (i) necessary knowledge, (ii) a mobile based application for
(c) (i) adequate storage facility, (ii) a cost effective solution to
(d) (i) latest technology, (ii) fruits and vegetables with long shelf life to solve

6. According to paragraph 4, a 'change' that the author feels is most urgently required in Indian culture is

- (a) A new software to send invitations
(b) Replying to a RSVP without fail
(c) A marketing campaign to increase India's share in consumer product sales worldwide
(d) Developing easy, online or mobile based applications

7. The author's tone in paragraph 4 is one of

- (a) persuasion (b) humour (c) encouragement (d) criticism

8. According to paragraph 5, the author is upset with

- (a) Indians' habit of making choices with consequences
(b) Indians' desire to live pristine and perfect lives
(c) Most Indians' tendency to blame others for a problem
(d) Uncontrollably rising food prices

9. Which of the following **ARE NOT** among the solutions suggested by the author to reduce food wastage?

1. Eating moderately
2. Cooking only as much food as is needed
3. Storing facilities for prolonged use of food
4. Producing extra food
5. Taking steps to avoid food wastage at social gatherings
6. Changing a few cultural traditions and conventions
- (a) Options 1 and 4
(b) Options 2 and 5
(c) Options 3 and 6
(d) Options 4 and 6

10. Which of the following quotes is **NOT** in consonance with the main idea of the passage?

1
Cutting food waste is a delicious way of saving money, helping to feed the world and protect the planet.

(a) Option 1

2
Let us strive to be better people and not waste our food.

(b) Option 2

3
If we could stop wasting food, imagine how many more people we could feed!

(c) Option 3

4
People waste a lot of money on food and they're not even eating healthy.

(d) Option 4

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

(10)

DAYS ZERO

1. While the world's most dramatic urban crisis unfolds in Cape Town in South Africa, recent studies say at least 200 cities across the world are fast running out of water. An analysis by 'Down To Earth' shows 10 of them are headed towards DAY ZERO – when the taps will run dry. This comes as a surprise because cities across the world have grown, thrived and expanded along rich, perennial sources of water, be it lakes, rivers, springs or even seas. So, where did all the water go? Robert McDonald, lead scientist at the US-based environmental group 'Nature Conservancy' offers an explanation. "The main long-term driver of these shortages is the unprecedented urban growth occurring around the world," he says. Rightly so.
2. The crisis at Cape Town has shown what unplanned urbanisation can do to water availability in the world's urban centres. Not only are our metropolises headed to a dry future, the scarcity will increase as people are migrating to urban areas at unprecedented rates.

3. About 54 per cent of the world, or 3.9 billion people, live in urban areas and they will grow between 60 and 92 per cent by the end of the century, says a study published recently in *Nature*. As a result, the urban water demand will increase by 80 per cent by 2050, it adds. It is worrying that "climate change will alter the timing and distribution of water," it says. About 400 million urban dwellers currently face water shortage, states a 2014 study published in *Global Environmental Change*. This when the average global temperature has not even risen by 1.5°C above pre-industrialisation levels. What will happen when it rises by 2°C? A study, published in *Earth System Dynamics* in November 2017, has made projections for those scenarios. A 1.5°C rise in the average global temperature will expose 357 million urban dwellers to extreme droughts while the figure for a 2°C rise will be 696 million, it says. The number of city dwellers facing water shortage by 2050 could be much higher, about 1 billion, says the *Nature* study.

Source: *Down to Earth*

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best option.

1. Which of the following statements is **NOT TRUE** according to the first paragraph?
 - (a) The city of Cape Town recently suffered a water related disaster.
 - (b) 200 cities all over the world are heading towards 'zero days' according to a 'Down to Earth' analysis.
 - (c) That cities along the perennial sources of water run the risk of going dry is a surprise for most scientists.
 - (d) Extraordinary expansion of urban area is the main cause of water scarcity in the long run.
2. When the writer remarks 'Rightly so' (last line of paragraph 1), he means to say that
 - (a) the water shortage in Cape Town was really a 'most dramatic urban crisis'
 - (b) 10 cities are increasingly at risk of going dry in the near future
 - (c) urban centres have thrived and expanded all along perennial sources of water
 - (d) uncontrolled urban development is the main reason behind water crisis in the world today
3. Which of the following can replace the word 'perennial' in paragraph 1 without changing the meaning?
 - (a) occasional
 - (b) permanent
 - (c) scarce
 - (d) temporary
4. In paragraph 2, the author expresses a/an
 - (a) anger
 - (b) doubt
 - (c) fear
 - (d) hope
5. A lesson that the world can learn from the Cape Town crisis is that
 - (a) no new cities should be built in any parts of the world
 - (b) unplanned urban growth due to unprecedented migration should be checked
 - (c) a dry future awaits all the metropolises of the world
 - (d) cities all over the world will continue to face water shortage in the future

6. According to paragraph 3, people living in urban areas are

- (a) nearly 60% of the world population
- (b) 80% of the world population
- (c) a little more than 92% of the world population
- (d) a little under 55% of the world population

7. Correctly match the items in Column A with those in Column B in the light of paragraph 3.

COLUMN A	COLUMN B
Rise in global temperature above pre-industrialisation levels	Its effect on global water availability
1. 2°C	A. 400 million face water shortage
2. 1.5°C	B. No data available in the paragraph
3. Less than 1.5°C	C. 696 million urban people will feel extreme droughts
4. 1°C or less	D. 357 million urban people face extreme droughts

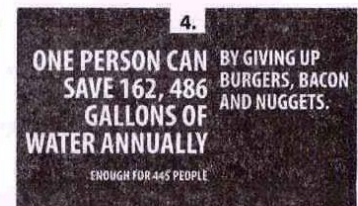
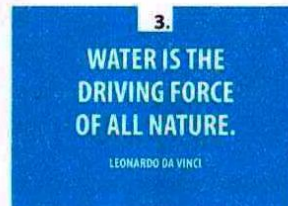
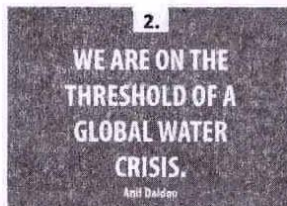
(b) 1-C, 2-D, 3-A and 4-B

(d) 1-A, 2-B, 3-D and 4-C

8. The range of rise in urban population by the end of the current century is likely to remain

- (a) far above 50%
- (b) below 60%
- (c) more than 92%
- (d) as much as 76%

9. Which of the following quotes exactly expresses the main concern the author has raised in the passage above?



(a) Option 1

(c) Option 3

(b) Option 2

(d) Option 4

10. Which of the following has the author **NOT DEALT WITH** in the passage above?

- (a) Water shortage so far in some major urban areas in the world
- (b) Water shortage in urban areas of the world in the future
- (c) Water shortage in rural areas all over the world
- (d) Water shortage experienced recently in Cape Town, South Africa

SECTION – B [WRITING & GRAMMAR]

3. You are a resident of Ram Nagar, Goa. You are concerned about the increasing number of floods in your city. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper “Jan Chetna” highlighting the problem and suggesting measures to check the problem in 100-120 words. (5)

OR

Highlight the importance of proper sewage disposal with an aim to create awareness among the city

residents. Write a letter regarding the same to the editor of a national daily “Times of India” in 100-120

words. You are Rena/Rohan of Nehru Nagar, Pune

4. Given below is a table based on the survey made on preferences / habits and their effects on school-going children. On the basis of this table, write a brief paragraph on ‘School-going Children : Lazy and Disease-prone’.

(5)

Preferences	1.	Commuting to School	By cycle : 20%	By car / bus : 65%	Walking : 15%
	2.	Food preference	Fast food / junk food : 60%	Vegetables, cereals, rice, chappatis : 15%	Cold drinks, ice creams : 25%
Effects	3.	Hobbies / Games / Leisure activities	Video games : 60%	Outdoor games : 5%	Internet surfing / chatting : 35%
	4.	Diseases / Ailments	Obesity : 20%	Heart disease : 15%	Other diseases : 25%

Or

India needs energetic and healthy youth to serve her but the school going children are turning lazy, obese and disease prone these days. You are Shobit/Shobhna. Write a paragraph on the topic ‘School Going Children – Why Lazy ?’ You may use the hints given below :

Hints — (no physical activities, instead of sports prefer video games, chatting on internet, TV watching, wrong food habits, used to junk food, soft drinks, effects, obesity, high blood pressure, over-weight, need to live a disciplined life).

5. Attempt any ten questions.

(10x1=10)

i. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option.

If I were attending the workshop, I stay on till the end of the second session as well.

- (a) would (b) may (c) can (d) should

ii. Read the conversation between a passenger and the clerk at the ticket counter.

Complete the sentence by reporting the reply correctly.

The clerk at the ticket counter : Where do you want to go ?

Passenger : Please give me a ticket to Bhopal.

The clerk at the ticket counter enquired where the passenger wanted to go. The passenger requested the clerk

iii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line :

As a true patriot, I lay down my life for my motherland.

- (a) might (b) could (c) will (d) should

iv. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line :

My sister lives at the ground floor of a two-storeyed apartment and hates living there.

Option No.	Error	Correction
(a)	live	living
(b)	at	on
(c)	hates	hate
(d)	there	their

v. Complete the given narrative by filling in the blank with the correct option :

When I was a very young girl, for grocery shopping was considered a major outing for me.

- (a) to be going (b) going (c) having gone (d) went

vi. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket :

The package (arrive) at nine in the morning, the day after tomorrow.

- (a) will arrive (b) would arrive (c) can arrive (d) cannot arrive

vii. Report the dialogue between Tony and Sarita, by completing the sentence.

Tony : Why did you call me ?

Sarita : Will you go to the museum with me ?

Tony asked Sarita why she had called him. Sarita wanted to know whether Tony

viii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction :

Do you know that slouching should cause many problems ?

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

ix. Roma asked Gopal to go by the metro. Report Gopal's question. Which way is the metro station ?

x. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option.

Drivers wear helmets for their safety.

(a) must (b) can't (c) don't (d) ought

xi. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option.

Economics difficult for the students of grade nine.

(a) is (b) are (c) has (d) were

xii. The father said, "I bought a watch." (Change the speech)

(a) The father said that I bought a watch.

(b) The father said that he bought a watch.

(c) The father said that he had bought a watch.

(d) The father said that he has bought a watch.

SECTION – C [LITERATURE]

6. Read the extract carefully and answer the questions that follow.

[40]
(5x1=5)

An ultimate shaking grief fixes the boy
As he stands rigid, trembling, staring down
All his young days into the harbor where
His ball went.

(a) Name the poem and the poet.

(b) Where has his ball gone?

(c) Who is 'he' in the above extract?

(d) What does the poet want the boy to learn?

(e) How has the loss affected the boy?

OR

Has given my heart
A change of mood
And saved some part
Of a day I had rued.

(a) Name the poem and the poet.

(b) What is the rhyming scheme of this stanza?

(c) What had the poet thought of that day?

(d) What had given the poet 'a change of mood' ?

(e) How has the crow changed the poet's mood?

7. Answer two out of the three short answer type questions given below in about 40-50 words each.

(2x3=6)

(a) Did Ausable know that it was the waiter who had knocked at the door? How can you say so?

(b) How did Horace Danby manage to get rare and expensive books?

(c) What foods Mrs. Pumphery used to send at the Surgery?

8. Answer four out of five short answer type questions given below in about 40-50 words each.

(4x3=12)

(a) "These truly did resemble new silver coins". What does this line refer to? Why?

(b) What happened after the Dakota 088 pilot interred the stormy clouds?

(c) Why was Mr. Keesing annoyed with Anne? What did he ask her to do?

(d) What happened when the pilot turned the aeroplane twelve degrees west towards England?

9. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow. (5x1=5)

The policy of apartheid created a deep and lasting wound in my country and my people. All of us will spend many years, if not generations, recovering from the profound hurt. But the decades of oppression and brutality had another, unintended, effect and that was that it produced the Oliver Tambo, the Walter Sisulus, the Chief Luthulis, the Yusuf Dadoo, the Bram Fischers, the Robert Sobukwes of our time—men of such extraordinary courage, wisdom and generosity that their like may never be known again.

(a) What is apartheid?

(b) On what occasion did Nelson Mandela speak these words?

(c) Who are the people mentioned by the author in the above extract?

(d) What phenomenal change has occurred recently, as discussed by the author in this chapter?

(e) What affect did the policy of apartheid had on the people of South Africa?

OR

That evening, after I'd finished the rest of my homework, the note about the essay caught my eye. I began thinking about the subject while chewing the tip of my fountain pen. Anyone could ramble on and leave big spaces between the words, but the trick was to come up with convincing arguments to prove the necessity of talking. I thought and thought, and suddenly I had an idea. I wrote three pages Mr. Keesing had assigned me and was satisfied. I argued that talking is a student's trait and that I would do my best to keep it under control, but that I would never be able to cure myself of the habit since my mother talked as much as I did if not more, and there's no more, and that's there's not much you can do about inherited traits.

a. What is the main feature of an essay according to Anne?

b. What did Anne argue in the essay? Why?

c. What inherited traits does Anne talk about?

d. Why was Anne's entire class anxious and nervous?

e. What does Anne write in her first essay to support the habit of talking so much?

10. Attempt any one out of the two long questions given below in about 100-120 words. (6)

Describe the first flight of seagull.

OR

Describe the landlord's and his wife's experience with the strange scientist.

11. Attempt any one out of the two long questions given below in about 100-120 words. (6)

What does Mandela mean to say that oppressor and the oppressed alike are robbed of their humanity?

OR

What information did Ausable give to Max about the invisible balcony? Why?