



# VISHNU BHAGWAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

Pre Board Exam (2023-24)

Class – 12

Subject –English

{SET-A}

Time: 3:00 Hours

M.M:80

## General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

### Section A: Reading Skills

#### Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages

[22 Marks]

#### 1. Read the following text.

(12)

1. There are two types of diabetes, insulin-dependent, and non-insulin-dependent. Between 90-95% of the estimated 13-14 million people in the United States with diabetes have non-insulin-dependent, or Type 2 diabetes. Because this form of diabetes usually begins in adults over the age of 40, it is called adult-onset diabetes. Its symptoms often develop gradually, and are hard to identify at first; therefore, nearly half of all people with diabetes do not know they have it. This can be particularly dangerous because untreated diabetes can cause damage to the heart, blood vessels, eyes, kidneys, and nerves. While the causes, short-term effects and treatments of the two types of diabetes differ, both types can cause the same long-term health problems.
2. What causes Type 2 diabetes? There is no simple answer to this question. While eating sugar, for instance, doesn't cause diabetes, it only causes weight gain. Scientists do not fully understand why obesity increases someone's chances of developing diabetes but they believe obesity is a major factor leading to Type 2 diabetes.
3. Age, sex, weight, physical activity, diet, lifestyle and family health history, all affect someone's chances of developing Type 2 diabetes. Experts now know that diabetes is more common in African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and Native Hawaiians than in white people. While the chances of developing diabetes increase with age, gender isn't a risk factor.
4. Both types affect the body's ability to use digested food for energy. Diabetes does not interfere with digestion but it does prevent the body from using glucose (commonly known as sugar) for energy. After a meal, the normal digestive system breaks food down into glucose. The blood carries the glucose or sugar throughout the body, causing blood glucose levels to rise. In response to this rise, the hormone insulin is released into the bloodstream which signals the body tissues to burn the glucose for fuel, which causes blood glucose levels to return to normal. The glucose that the body does not use right away is stored in the liver, muscle or fat.
5. In both types of diabetes, however, this normal process malfunctions. A gland called the pancreas, found just behind the stomach, makes insulin. In people with insulin-dependent diabetes, the pancreas does not produce insulin at all so they take daily insulin injections to survive. This condition usually begins in childhood and is known as Type 1 diabetes.
6. In some cases, people with non-insulin-dependent diabetes usually produce some insulin in their pancreas but their bodies' tissues do not respond well to the insulin signal and therefore do not metabolise the glucose properly, a condition known as insulin resistance.
7. There's no cure for diabetes yet. However, there are ways to alleviate its symptoms. In 1986, a National Institute of Health panel of experts recommended that the best treatment for non-insulin-dependent diabetes is a diet that helps one maintain a normal weight and pays particular attention to a proper balance of the different food groups. Many experts, including those in the American Diabetes Association, recommend a diet wherein 50-60% of daily calories come from carbohydrates, 12-20% from protein, and no more than 30% from fat.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- (i) Select the option that mentions what people suffering from Type 1 diabetes should/should not do

(1)

- (a) not take insulin injections daily to survive      (b) take insulin injections daily to survive  
(c) take insulin injections weekly to survive      (d) take insulin injections daily to survive

- (ii) The writer would not agree with the following statement EXCEPT

(1)

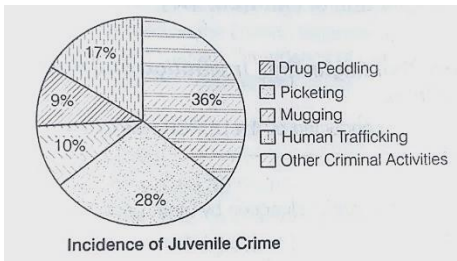
- (a) Both types of diabetes affect the body's ability to use digested food for energy.  
(b) Pancreas does not make insulin.      (c) Type 1 diabetes is more common.  
(d) There exists a cure for diabetes.

- (iii) State the major function(s) of insulin as mentioned in the passage. (1)
- (iv) Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference with respect to the following. (1)  
The best way for treating non-insulin diabetes focuses on maintaining a normal weight and eating a ....
- (v) Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'increase' from words used in the last paragraph. (1)  
(a) Panel (b) Alleviate (c) Rich (d) Maintain
- (vi) Justify the following statement. (2)  
Insulin resistance is a problem commonly found in non-insulin-dependent diabetes. Answer in about 40 words.
- (vii) What do you think is common between both types of diabetes? (2)
- (viii) State the correlation between Type-II diabetes and age in about 40 words.
- (ix) Select a suitable title for the above passage. (1)  
(a) Understanding Diabetes (b) Preventing Diabetes  
(c) Rising concern of Diabetes (d) Diabetes and Obesity

**2. Read the following text.**

1. In recent years, India has seen manifold increase in crimes committed by minors. While analysing the factors responsible for the spurt in crime rate the experts believe that the rural-urban conflict is at the core of these crimes in cities especially underage crimes. The largely rural and semi-urban background of most of the offenders point to that direction. According to the researchers, these young people are not benefitting from the economic reforms in comparison to the educated and professional counterparts in the cities. They feel neglected, frustrated and distressed which leads to crimes such as murder etc.

2. An increase in number of rural people migrating to cities in search of better life opportunities however do not prepare them for the urban value system. The children are often neglected, as both parents are working and unable to spend time with them. The children do not get the attention and right values essential for upbringing.



3. The report Why Children Commit Offences published by Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) in June, 2015, focused on children in conflict with the law in Delhi. The report looks at multiple issues like the socio-economic profile of children with a criminal record, the nature of offence that these children were accused of and analysed the factors that push children towards deviant behaviour. The report highlighted the role of the family, the community, the school and education as well the peer influence. The report after studying 182 children in observation homes, special homes found that poverty is one of the biggest contributing factors in children taken to crimes. Most of the children had undergone multiple deprivations with low economic households, uneducated parents; disrupted families. The children were dropouts and working independently to support their families.

4. A first step would be for the government to support those families that have poor economic status. In addition, universal education among children is absolutely necessary to eradicate crime among teens. However, only passing legislation is not enough. Society has to ensure that every family sends its children to school, rather than making them work at home or outside, or simply neglecting them. The problem has to be nipped in the bud. A good family atmosphere and proper counselling are needed at all stages for children belonging to vulnerable social groups.

**Answer the following questions, based on given passage.**

- (i) What was the conclusion of the survey conducted by the DCPCR? (2)
- (ii) How can the solutions, suggested in the last paragraph, be described? (1)  
(a) Practical (b) Presentable (c) Popular (d) Prejudiced
- (iii) What do you understand by the term 'peer influence' mentioned in the third paragraph of the passage? (1)

(iv) What can be done to eradicate crimes? (1)

- (a) A good family atmosphere (b) Proper counselling  
(c) Universal education (d) Passing legislation

(v) Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option. (1)

The people migrating to cities for better opportunities are unaware of the.....

- (a) urban value system (b) corruption prevalent in the city  
(c) level of exploitation in the city (d) deprivation that they would face in the city

(vi) Based on the reading of the text, state a point to challenge the given statement. (2)

*Passing legislation is enough to eradicate crime among teens.*

(vii) Complete the sentence based on the information given in the passage. (1)

As a result of the neglect of children, they do not inculcate.....

(viii) State True or False. (1)

*Researchers believe that neglect, frustration and distressment makes makes the offender commit crimes.*

### **Section-B: Creative Writing Skills [18 Marks]**

**Note:** All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

3. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two, in about 50 words. (4)

**A.** You are Sameer/Sarla, Head Boy/Girl of JP Public School. Your school is organising a 'Blood Donation Camp' in association with the Red Cross Society of India. Draft a notice for the school notice board, addressing students of classes XI-XII, informing them about this camp and urging them to donate blood.

**OR**

**B.** As the School Captain of Meerut Public School, Varanasi draft a notice is not more than 50 words for the school notice board, informing the students of class XII about a guest lecture by Mr. Rajiv, an environmentalist, on the topic 'Conservation of Water'.

4. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two, in about 50 words. (4)

**A.** You are Divesh Rana, a resident of Haryana. Invite your friend Mohak Chhabra who lives in old Delhi to spend a part of his summer vacations with you at your farm house in Dehradun. (50 words)

**OR**

**B.** You are Saurab/Samaira Chaturvedi living at C-404, Adharsila Apartments, New Delhi. You decide to hold a dinner party to congratulate your grandfather on his 100th birthday. Draft a formal invitation in not more than 50 words to all family members to attend a grand dinner at home.

5. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two, in about 120-150 words: (5)

**A.** You are Rita/Rajesh Arora from 29-D, Shanti Park, Bengaluru. You have read an advertisement in 'The Times of India' for the post of Assistant Librarian given by St. Darwin Convent Library, Bengaluru. Write an application to apply for the post Also, give your detailed bio-data separately.

St. Darwin Convent Library, Bengaluru, invites applications from well qualified and experienced person for the post of Assistant Librarian.

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

- A Master degree in Library Science with at least 55% marks
- Minimum 2 years of work experience in a leading academic
- Institute or University
- Language proficiency in English and Hindi

**OR**

**B.** Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper drawing attention of the authorities to the rash driving and over charging habits of auto-rickshaw drivers. Use the following clues and invent the necessary details. (120-150 words)

#### **Clues**

- Indispensable part of transport
- Run helter-skelter
- Charge different price for the same journey
- Misbehave with the passengers

6. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two, in about 120-150 words. (5)

**A.** Places of pilgrimage have turned into tourist spots. As a result of this, they are losing their importance and grace, thereby disturbing nature too.

You are Swati/Sandeep, a columnist for an e-zine. Draft an article in about 120-150 words on the theme of maintaining the grace of places of pilgrimage.

Explore possible reasons for the prevailing situation and include suggestions for addressing it. You may use the clues given below.

- Flooded with tourists
- construction of roads, hotels, etc
- Litter and pollute pilgrimages
- Located on high mountains
- Excess footfall
- Realise the real essence

**OR**

**B.** Once women were worshipped as goddesses in India but gradually their status has deteriorated. The crime against women are increasing day by day and today, the greatest number of crimes are committed against them.

Write a report on 'Crime Against Women'. You are Varsha/Siddhartha, the junior correspondent of a Local Daily. The following clues may be used to frame the report.

- Due to patriarchal nature of society
- Burnt for dowry
- Female foeticide
- Eve-teasing
- Abduction and rape
- Exploitation at workplace
- Remedies are women's education and economic independence

### **Section-C**

#### **Literature Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text**

**[40 Marks]**

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two given. (6)

**A.**

*"But after the airport's  
Security check, standing a few yards  
away, I looked again at her, wan, pale  
as a late winter's Moon."* (My Mother at Sixty-Six)

(i) Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the last line of the extract. (1)

(a) As white as snow (b) The lanky lad troubled all.

(c) Life is full of ups and downs. (d) Nature is god's gift to us.

(ii) State whether the given statement is True or False with reference to the extract. (1)

When the poet looks at her mother again, she is trying to be hopeful.

(iii) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

The poet looked at her mother again in order to ....

(iv) The line 'I looked at her, wan and pale as a late winter's moon' indicates that..... (1)

(v) Answer in one word.

The figure of speech used in the lines 'the young trees sprinting is..... (1)

(vi) What were the reasons for mother's pale face? (1)

(a) Her old age (b) Her depleting energy (c) Her illness (d) Both (a) and (b)

**OR**

**B.**

*Therefore on every morrow, are we wreathing.  
A flowery band to bind us to the Earth, Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth Of noble  
natures, of the gloomy days,  
Of all the unhealthy and o'er darkened ways Made for our searching: yes, in spite of all, Some  
shape of beauty moves away the pall  
From our dark spirits.* (A Thing of Beauty)

(i) Pick the option that enumerates what 'noble natures' would include (1)

(a) selflessness (b) enthusiasm (c) judiciousness (d) All of these

(ii) What makes our life full of inhuman dearth? (1)

(iii) Pick the option that is **NOT** an example of 'unhealthy and o'er darkened ways.' (1)

- (a) A person who is egoistic and looks down upon others.
- (b) A person who seeks God's help for all his problems.
- (c) A person who uses evil ways to deceive others.
- (d) A person who is corrupt and manipulative.

(iv) State whether the given statement is True or False. (1)

The Earth without the beautiful things is a place full of despair and unpleasantness.

(v) Explain the reference to 'every morrow'.

The reference to 'every morrow' in the poem indicates the poet feels that beauty impacts us .....

(vi) The poet says that we wreath a flowery band that binds us to Earth. (1)

He means to state that nature's beauty fills man with ..

**8.** Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two, given. (4)

**A.** Things were quite different then: humans hadn't arrived on the global scene, and the climate was much warmer, hosting a huge variety of flora and fauna. For 500 million years Gondwana thrived, but around the time when the dinosaurs were wiped out and the age of the mammals got under way, the landmass was forced to separate into countries, shaping the globe much as we know it today.

*(Journey to the End of Earth)*

(i) 'Shaping the globe much as we know it today' means the world with..... (1)

- (a) the continents and countries
- (b) the rivers and mountains
- (c) the flora and fauna
- (d) All of these

(ii) What is the author's tone when she talks of Gondwana? (1)

(iii) Complete the sentence appropriately with reference to the extract. (1)

'Then' in the extract refers to ....

(iv) Why do you think Gondwana is important? (1)

**OR**

**B.** When I heard this, I didn't want to laugh any more, I felt terribly sad. How could they believe that it was disgusting if one of us held that package in his hands, even though the vadai had been wrapped first in a banana leaf and then parcelled in paper? I felt so provoked and angry that I wanted to touch those wretched vadais myself straightaway. Why should we fetch and carry for these people, I wondered. Such an important elder of ours goes meekly to the shops to fetch snacks and hands them reverently, bowing and shrinking, to this fellow who just sits there and stuffs them into his mouth. The thought of it infuriated me.

*(We too are Human Beings-Memories of Childhood)*

(i) The elder handing snacks reverently, bowing and shrinking to the fellow indicates that the 'fellow' was (1)

- (a) condescending
- (b) disdainful
- (c) domineering
- (d) All of these

(ii) When does the incident referred to in the extract refer to? (1)

(iii) Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract. (1)

The narrator got sad because .....

(iv) How will you characterise Bama on the basis of the given extract? (1)

**9.** Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two given. (6 Marks)

"My children, this is the last lesson I shall give you. The order has come from Berlin to teach only German in the schools of Alsace and Lorraine. The new master comes tomorrow. This is your last French lesson. I want you to be very attentive."

"What a thunderclap these words were to me!

Oh, the wretches; that was what they had put up at the town hall! *(The Last Lesson)*

(i) How would you describe Franz's tone when he says- "What a thunderclap these words were to me"? (1)

(ii) Select the option that completes the given sentence appropriately. (1)

"What a thunderclap these words were to me!"

The words were:

- (a) loud and clear
- (b) pleasant and welcome
- (c) startling and unexpected
- (d) Both (a) and (c)

(iii) Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract. (1)

'They' in the given lines refer to .....

- (iv) Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that Franz realised that the order was put up on the bulletin board. (1)
- (v) What do you M. Hamel is feeling in the given lines? (1)
- (vi) Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is TRUE for the speaker of the given lines. (1)
- (a) The speaker is angry at the Prussian kingdom. (b) The speaker does not want to leave Alsace. (c) The speaker is angry at the villagers. (d) The speaker does not want to take the lesson.

**OR**

**B.** "Why do I refuse to be interviewed? Because it is immoral! It is a crime, just as much of a crime as an offence against my person, as an assault, and just as much merits punishment. It is cowardly and vile. No respectable man would ask it, much less give it." (*The Interview*)

- (i) What drawbacks of the interview did the speaker's wife point out? (1)
- (ii) Who is the speaker here? (1)
- (a) Lewis Carroll (b) Rudyard Kipling (c) Mukund Padmanabhan (d) VS Naipaul
- (iii) What is ironical about the speaker's statement? (1)
- (iv) From the kind of response towards interviews, do you think that the speaker had a bad experience with the interviewers? (1)
- (v) What does the expression 'merits punishment' mean here? (1)
- (a) Interviewer should be condemned and punished
- (b) Appreciated (c) Should be jailed (d) Should be isolated
- (vi) Complete the sentence with **ONE WORD**.

The attitude of the speaker of these lines towards interview was .... (1)

**10.** Answer **ANY FIVE** of the following six questions, in about 40-50 words. ( $5 \times 2 = 10$ )

- (i) Identify and interpret the symbols found in the poem Aunt Jennifer's Tigers. (2)
- (ii) Elaborate the significance of number twelve in the poem Keeping Quiet. (2)
- (iii) How would you evaluate Mukund Padmanabhan as an interviewer? Mention at least two qualities he displays in his interview, supported by textual evidence.

(*The Interview*)

- (iv) How do you think man would suffer in the absence of beauty? (*A Thing of Beauty*)(2)
- (v) Describe the irony in Saheb's name. (*Lost Spring*) (2)
- (vi) The story is written in a way that it makes it difficult to point out clearly if Sophie met Danny Casey or not. Suggest possible reasons for such writing. (2)

(*Going Places*)

**11.** Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. ( $2 \times 2 = 4$ )

- (i) How did Sam's mail reach Charley? (*The Third Level*) (2)
- (ii) 'Knowing too much of your future is never a good thing'. In the light of this quote, examine how knowing the future paved way for the king's end. (1+1)
- (iii) Sadao and Hana look upon their time in America with disdain due to the prejudice that they were subjected to. How does racial prejudice taint a person's soul forever? (1+1)

**12.** Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. (5)

- A.** Fear is something that we must learn to overcome if we want to succeed in life. How did Douglas get over his fear of water? (*Deep Water*) (5)

**OR**

**B.** Robert Frost, in his poems, usually focuses on the theme of human tragedies and fears and their ultimate acceptance or their solution. Justify. (*The Roadside Stand*)

**13.** Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. (5)

- A.** Why did Bama stroll in the marketplace instead of hurrying home? Describe the sights she enjoyed seeing there. (**We too are Human Beings - Memories of Childhood**) (5)

**OR**

**B.** The author of Journey to the end of the Earth is Tishani Doshi has been invited to a international conference and is asked to tell us how she started writing and how it had changed with the journey. As the narrator, write a speech discussing the impact of the students on Ice programme on your life and writing.