

THE WEST BENGAL COUNCIL OF RABINDRA OPEN SCHOOLING

UCHCHA MADHYAMIK PARIKSHA, 2024

পশ্চিমবঙ্গ রবীন্দ্র মুক্তবিদ্যালয় সংসদ
উচ্চমাধ্যমিক পরীক্ষা, ২০২৪

English

Time : 3 Hours 15 Minutes

Full Marks : 80

(General Instructions for the Examinees)

All Candidates should answer First Paper and Second Paper in one Answer Booklet.

Candidates should write their Name, Roll No. and Registration No.
in their respective answer scripts.

First 15 Minutes are allotted for reading the question paper.
Answers should be in brief and to the point.

Write correct question no. against each answer.

Special credit will be given for answers which are brief and to the point.
Marks will be deducted for spelling mistakes, untidiness and bad handwriting.
In the right side, the marks of questions are given.

Group – A

1. Complete each of the following sentences, choosing the correct option from the alternatives provided: 1×4

- (i) Gandhiji decided to live twenty four hours of the day among the boys and girls because
 - (a) he loved them as his children.
 - (b) he wanted to look after them as their father.
 - (c) he wanted to build their character through close interactions.
 - (d) he wanted to give them moral training.
- (ii) Time has become our tyrant because
 - (a) we have to lead a very busy life.
 - (b) we have become a slave to the moving hands of the clock.
 - (c) time is very important in our lives.
 - (d) we have to work according to the factory rules.
- (iii) Proverbs have come down to us from the time when
 - (a) the world was primitive.
 - (b) the world was in darkness.
 - (c) the people living in this world were simple.
 - (d) the world was unknown.
- (iv) Della made coffee at
 - (a) 5 am.
 - (b) 8 am.
 - (c) 7 O'clock.
 - (d) 9 am.

2. Answer *any two* of the following questions in not more than 30 words: 3×2=6

- (i) Why did the narrator forget the girl after reaching Dehra?
- (ii) How do urban people measure time?
- (iii) Why should people living in glass houses keep on throwing stones?
- (iv) What is the name of the Kabuliwala? What was his gift to Mini on the first day of meeting?

3. Answer *any one* of the following questions in about 100 words: 5×1=5

- (i) Why did narrator pack in haste and leave for Dehra? Why was the narrator's grandmother displeased with him?
- (ii) "Industrialism and urbanism have changed all this."— What changes have been brought about by industrialism and urbanism?
- (iii) "This incident set me thinking and taught me a better method of correcting students."— Narrate briefly the incident referred to here. What was its effect on the speaker?

4. Complete each of the following sentences choosing the correct option from the alternatives provided: 1×4=4

(i) By the phrase ‘narrow domestic walls’, the poet refers to

- (a) liberty and equality
- (b) the petty concerns of home
- (c) fear of defeat
- (d) concrete walls of the house

(ii) The highland lass is _____ girl in the ‘Solitary Reaper’.

- (a) Iranian
- (b) Scottish
- (c) German
- (d) French

(iii) Besides the horse, the poet has for company

- (a) the owner of the woods
- (b) the farmhouse owner
- (c) another horse
- (d) no one

(iv) “All the world’s a stage/And all the men and women merely players.”— The figures of speech used in the quoted line is

- (a) Simile
- (b) Metaphor
- (c) Hyperbole
- (d) Personification

5. Answer *any two* of the following questions each in not more than 30 words: 3×2=6

- (i) Whose touch woke the soldier? Where did the touch awake him?
- (ii) What appears sweeter than the song of the nightingale to the poet?
- (iii) Where and when did the speaker stop in the poem ‘Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening’?

6. Answer *any one* of the following questions in about 100 words: 5×1=5

- (i) Justify the significance of the title of the poem ‘Where the Mind is Without Fear’.
- (ii) Can a “simple job of the knife” kill a tree? Why not?
- (iii) Bring out the central idea of the poem ‘Seven Ages of Man’.

7. Choose the correct alternatives from the options given below and complete each of the following sentences: 1×3=3

- (i) Jimmy Walsh sings the song from the ballad named
- (a) The Peerler and the Goat.
 - (b) Jhonny Hart.
 - (c) Content and a Pipe.
 - (d) Upon Westminster Bridge.
- (ii) The Ragged Man tells the Sergeant his desire to stay at the quay
- (a) to enjoy the beauty of the place.
 - (b) to sell the ballads to the sailors.
 - (c) to help the Sergeant.
 - (d) to hide.
- (iii) 'I'll go distracted mad' said
- (a) the rich farmer's daughter.
 - (b) the Highland soldier.
 - (c) the mother of the daughter.
 - (d) the rebel leader.

8. Answer *any two* of the following questions each in not more than 30 words: 2×2=4

- (i) Why does the Sergeant hide the wig and the hat of the Man?
- (ii) "I am a friend of Granuaile."— Who said this and to whom? Who is Granuaile?
- (iii) Why does not the Sergeant want that the two policemen should stay with him?

9. Answer *any one* of the following questions each in not more than 40 words: 3×1=3

- (i) "You deceived me. You deceived me well." Who is 'you' referred to here? How did he deceive the speaker?
- (ii) How does the Ragged Man manage to stay at the quay and safely made his escape?

Group – B

10. Do as directed: 2×2=4

- (i) She said, "I lived in Goa for many years."
(Change the narration)
- (ii) He goes to church every Sunday in ____ morning in _____ rickshaw.
(Fill in the blanks with appropriate preposition and article)

11. Join the following sentences into a single sentence: 2
She stood first in swimming. She was given a prize.

12. Split the following sentences: 2
The President came; addressed the meeting and left in the evening.

13. (i) Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper telling about the irregular clearance of garbage in your locality. Mention how the spread of disease increases at an alarming rate. (Word limit : 120 words)

Or,

- (ii) Write a letter to your younger brother, telling him about an adventure story book you have recently read. (Word limit: 120 words) 5

14. Write a précis of the following passage. Add a suitable title to it: 6

Everybody is eager for fortune, but very few attain it. One of the reasons is that most men do not exert themselves properly or are lacking in strength of mind. They lose heart under difficulties and give up their attempts altogether, blaming fate for their failure. They can never win the favour of the Goddess of fortune. It is only those who work hard that win fortune in the end. They face their difficulties bravely. They do not mind physical hardship and do not depend on others. They may fail once or twice or even repeatedly; still they do not lose heart, but work on with patience and perseverance. Thus success in the examination comes to a student who studies sincerely. Success in business also comes to those who work hard. The most prosperous nations are those that are industrious. Germany and Japan were laid in ruins by the Second World War, yet both the countries had again risen to great prosperity simply because the people there are very industrious.

Or,

Write your idea about your Village/Town.

15. (i) Write a paragraph (in about 120 words) on the Applications of Computers in Everyday Life. [Hints: The new age of the computer — Advantages — Growing use of the computers in different fields — offices, shops, Institutions — Need of right use] 6

Or,

- (ii) Write a paragraph (in about 120 words) about Seasons in West Bengal. [Hints: Traditional six seasons — The most important season, the rains — The other seasons — Festivals — The special characteristics of these seasons]

Or,

- (iii) Write a paragraph (in about 120 words) about the person you like the most. [Hints: The person — His identity — Reason for your liking — Influence on you]

16. Write short note on *any one* of the following: 5×1=5

- (i) The Romantic Period
(ii) The Victorian Period

17. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions below:

Kolkata: West Bengal is keen to promote production and marketing of its two premium quality rice– ‘Tulaipanji’ and ‘Gobindobhog’, besides making the aromatic and nutritious black rice more popular, state Agriculture Minister Ashis Banerjee said.

Replying to the debates on budgetary demands for grants of his department in the state Assembly, Banerjee said a major decision has been taken in this regard following good response from people in different agriculture fairs.

The state government will work on the packaging and branding of rice to attract buyers in the domestic and global markets at a moderate price, the minister said. ‘Tulaipanji’ is traditionally grown in Uttar Dinajpur (Kaliaganj, Raiganj and Hemtabad). It is estimated that about 16,000 tons of ‘Tulaipanji’ paddy is produced every year in two Dinajpur districts of the state. It is a type of non-basmati, indigenous and aromatic rice. A key feature of it is that the grains can retain the aroma for around a year and beyond.

‘Gobindobhog’ is a small grained aromatic rice, and is popular in the domestic market for its good quality.

Both ‘Tulaipanji’ and ‘Gobindobhog’ rice have received prestigious GI tag, a mark of their specific geographical location or point of origin. The black rice of Bengal also goes of its anti-cancer attributes, Banerjee said. The black rice is currently grown across nine districts of the state.

Elaborating on various programmes to improve the standard of living of farmers, Banerjee said their earnings in the state have increased from about Rs. 91,000 per annum in 2010-11 to Rs. 2,40,000 per annum in 2015-16.

Besides, facilities like Kisan Credit Card and old age pension have also made lives of farmers more secured and improved in the state, he said. In recognition of its achievements the state has bagged the centres’ ‘Krishi Karman Award’ for the last five years at a stretch, the minister added.

A. Choose the correct alternatives to complete the following sentences:

1×2=2

(i) The black rice is currently grown across

(a) six districts

(b) three districts

(c) two districts

(d) nine districts

(ii) The earnings of farmers in the state has grown by about Rs. 1,49,000 per annum over

(a) three years

(b) four years

(c) five years

(d) six years

- B. State whether the following statements are True or False. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False in the boxes given on the right hand side. Provide sentences/phrases/words from the passage in question No. 17 in support of your answer: (1+1)×2=4

(i) The passage mentions of three kind of rice. ☐

Supporting statement:

(ii) The black rice has anti-cancer properties. ☐

Supporting statement:

- C. Answer the following questions:

2×2=4

- (i) Which facilities are given to the farmers and why?
(ii) Where is 'Tulaipanji' grown?
