

THE INDIAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL, KUWAIT

SAMPLE PAPER

STD:XI

ENGLISH

SECTION A READING-20 MARKS

1.Read the following passage carefully and answer the question that follow:(6Marks)

In 3000 years of our history people from all over the world have come and invaded us, captured our lands, conquered our minds. From Alexander onwards, The Greeks, the Turks, the Moguls, the Portuguese, the British, the French, the Dutch, all of them came and looted us, took over what was ours.

Yet we have not done this to any other nation. We have not conquered anyone. We have not grabbed their land, their culture, their history and tried to enforce our way of life on them. Why? Because we respect the freedom of others.

That is why my first vision is that of FREEDOM. I believe that India got its first vision of this in 1857, when we started the war of independence. It is this freedom that we must protect and nurture and build on. If we are not free, no one will respect us.

My second vision for India is DEVELOPMENT. For fifty years we have been developing nation. It is time we see ourselves as a developed nation ha e a THIRD vision. India must stand up to the world.

Because I believe that unless India stands up to the world, no one will respect us. Only strength respects strength. We must be strong not only as a military power but also as an economic power. Both must go hand in hand. My good fortune was to have worked with three great minds. Dr. VikramSarabhai of the Dept. of space, Professor Satish Dhawan, who succeeded him and Dr. Brahm Prakash, father of nuclear material. I was lucky to have worked with all three of them closely and consider this the great opportunity of my life.

Here I am reminded an instance – One day an orthopaedic surgeon from Nizam Institute of Medical Sciences visited my laboratory. He lifted the material and found it so light that he took me to his hospital and showed me his patients. There were these little girls and boys with heavy metallic callipers weighing over three kg. each, dragging their feet around. He said to me: Please remove the pain of my patients. In three weeks, we made these Floor reaction Orthosis300 gram callipers

and took them to the orthopaedic centre. The children didn't believe their eyes. From dragging around a three kg. load on their legs, they could now move around! Their parents had tears in their eyes. That was bliss to me.

I have a question:

Why is the media here so negative? Why are we in India so embarrassed to recognize our own strengths, our achievements? We are such a great nation. We have so many amazing success stories but we refuse to acknowledge them. Why?

Another question:

Why are we, as a nation so obsessed with foreign things? We want foreign TV's we want foreign shirts.

We want foreign technology. Why this obsession with everything imported? Don't we realise that Self respect comes with self reliance?

I was in Hyderabad giving this lecture, when a 14yearold girl asked me for my autograph. I asked her what her goal in life is: She replied: 'I want to live in a developed India.' For her, you, I will have to build this developed India. You must proclaim. As an aside from yours truly: India is not an under developed nation, it is a highly developed nation in an advanced state of decay!

(A.P.J. Abdul Kalam).

Answer the following questions in reference to the above passage.(6marks)

- a) What does Kalam want us to protect and nurture?
- b) Why must India stand up to the world?
- c) Why do we need to give up our obsession with foreign things?
- d) How is India different according to the author?
- e) Why is self reliance so important?
- f) Find words from the passage which mean the same as: (1mark)
 - a) nurse b) event

2.Read the following passage carefully and answer the question that follow: (6marks)

INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCES

What is a classical dance? A dance which is created or choreographed and performed according to the tenets of the Natya Shastra is called a classical dance. The two broad aspects of classical dancing are the tandava and the lasya. Power and force are typical of the tandava; grace and delicacy, of the lasya. Tandava is

associated with Shiva, and lasya with Parvati. Dance which is pure movement is called nritya, and dance which is interpretative in nature is called nritya.

A dancer in the classical tradition has to have years of training before he or she can begin to perform on the stage.

What are the main schools of classical dancing?

The four main schools of classical dancing in India are: Bharata Natyam, Kathakali, Manipuri, Kathak. Bharata Natyam is the oldest and most popular dance-form of India. Earlier, it was known by various names. Some called it Bharatam, some Natyam some Desi Attam and some Sadir.

The districts of Tanjore and Kanchipuram of Tamil Nadu were the focal points in the development of Bharata Natyam. It was danced as a solo performance by devadasis (temple dancers) on all auspicious occasions. Later, kings and rich people lent their patronage to it and it started shedding its purely sacred character.

The dancer is directed by the natuvanar, who is a musician and, invariably, a teacher. Another musician plays the cymbals. The music for Bharata Natyam is the Carnatic School of music. The mridangam (a drum), played on both sides with the hands, provides the rhythm.

The home of Kathakali is Kerala. Kathakali literally means 'story-play'. It combines music, dance, poetry, drama and mime. Its present form has evolved out of older forms such as Ramanattam and Krishnanattam. Kathakali dance-dramas last from dusk to dawn. The artistes use elaborate costumes; masklike make-up and towering head-dresses. The dancers are all males - female roles are usually played by boys. There is no stage - a few mats are spread on the ground for the audience to sit on. The only 'stage-lighting' is a brass lamp fed with coconut oil.

Two singers provide the vocal music. The chenda, a large drum, which is beaten on one side with two slender curved sticks, is an integral part of the Kathakali performance. A metal gong, a pair of cymbals and another drum complete the orchestra. Besides providing the beat, they are also the means by which all the sound-effects are created.

Manipur, in the north-east is the home of Manipuri. It has evolved out of the folk dances of the land, which are religious in nature. Lai Haroba is the oldest dance-drama of Manipur and is based on folk-lore and mythology. But Ras Leela is the most popular one. It tells of the legendary love of Radha and Krishna. In the Manipuri style of dancing, the accent is on grace and softness. The women's costumes are extremely picturesque.

Besides the singers, the khol, the manjira and the flute also accompany the dancers. Kathak has its home in north India. 'Kathak' means 'story-teller'. In ancient times, the storyteller used gestures and movements while narrating the great epics. In course of time it became an elaborate art, rich in beautiful movements and facial expressions.

Later, under the Persian influence, the original dance form underwent many changes, gradually losing its religious and moral character. It became a court dance. Both men and women danced.

With the passing of years, the Kathak performance was reduced to being an evening's entertainment, and the girls, who danced, were no more than pretty entertainers. Kathak, however, was revived under the patronage of the rulers of Lucknow and Jaipur, and this gave rise to two styles known as the Lucknow gharana and the Jaipur gharana. Gharana means 'house' or 'school'.

In Kathak, the accent is on footwork. A dancer wears anklets with several rows of bells and skillfully regulates their sound, sometimes sounding just one bell out of the many on his feet. The singer who accompanies the Kathak dancer not only sings, but reproduces the drum syllables also. The sarangi, a string instrument, provides the music at a Kathak performance.

Swarn Khandpur

1. What is the Natya Shastra?

- a. Scientific study of a classical dance
- b. Science of dances
- c. A book written by a sage
- d. A book deals with a drama

Q.2. choose the appropriate meaning of the under lined word. The four main school of

classical dancing in India?

- a. Place where children are taught
- b. Training centers for artists
- c. Group of artists having a similar style.
- d. Schools that are purely for dance

Q.3. When did Bharata Naatyam start shedding its purely sacred character?

- a. When devadasis stopped dancing
- b. When danced as a solo performance
- c. When kings & rich patronised it
- d. When they used Carnatic music

Q.4. In which drama form the dances are all males?

- a. Bharat Natyam
- b. Manipuri
- c. Kathak
- d. Kathakali

Q.5. Which dance form has a origin in folk dance?

- a. Ras Leela
- b. Lai Haroba
- c. Manipuri
- d. Kathak

Q.6. In Kathak, the accent is -----

- a. On the basis of dancer's anklets
- b. On sound created by bells
- c. On the regulation of sound
- d. On footwork

3.Read the following passage carefully:(8Marks)

Anything printed and bound in book size can be called a book, but the quality or mind distinguishes the value of it. What is a book? This is how Anatole France describes it: "A series of little printed signs- essentially only that. It is for the reader to supply himself the forms and colours and sentiments to which these signs correspond. It will depend on him whether the book be dull or brilliant, hot with passion or cold as ice. Or if you prefer to put it otherwise, each word in a book is a magic finger that sets a fibre of our brain vibrating like a harp string and so evokes a note from the sounding board of our soul. No matter how skilful, how inspired' the artist's hand, the sound it makes depends on the quality of the strings within ourselves."

Until recently books were the preserve of a small section-the urban upper classes. Some, even today, make it a point to call themselves intellectuals. It would be a pity if books were meant only for intellectuals and not for housewives, farmers, factory workers, artisans and, so on. In India there are first-generation learners, whose parents might have been illiterate. This poses special challenges to our authors and to those who are entrusted with the task of disseminating knowledge. We need much more research in the use of language and the development of techniques by which knowledge can be transferred to these people without transmission loss.

Publishers should initiate campaigns to persuade people that a good book makes a beautiful present and that reading a good book can be the most relaxing as well as absorbing of pastimes. We should aim at books of quality no less than at quantitative expansion in production and sale. Unless one is constantly exposed to the best, one cannot develop a taste for the good.

1. On the basis of your reading, make notes using appropriate abbreviations and supply a suitable title.(5)
2. Write a summary of the above passage in 80 words.(3)

SECTION B WRITING AND GRAMMAR-30 MARKS

4.Literary Club of your school is going to organize a Literary Meet at cluster level. Write a notice in about 50 words being the Secretary of the Literary Club of your school inviting students from higher classes for being volunteers. Invent other details.(4Marks)

5. Cyclones often hit the coastal areas causing a lot of devastation in terms of life and property. A scientific mechanism is necessary to cope with the situation in time of emergency. Write an article in 150-200 words on how the victims of cyclones can be helped. You are Kamal/kamala.(6Marks)

6. On this Foundation Day of your school you want to donate a set of useful books to the school library. Write a letter stating your demand of books to the Scholastic Publications, detailing your requirement and giving a list of the title of the books. Invent all other details. Write in about 150 words.(10Marks)

7.Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense. (4Marks)

Dear Mr. Jones,

My family and I (suffer)a good deal lately from the noise made by your guests when they (leave) your house on Saturday nights. They (stand) in the street, (laugh) loudly and (call) goodbye to you and to each other. Then they (get) into their cars (bang) the doors loudly, and finally they (reverse) their cars on to the road.

8.Rewrite the following passage using the verbs (in brackets) in their correct form: (4Marks)

For a while I 1)___ (can) not decide whether I should speak to her or not. I did not have the guts to tell her that her mother 2)___ (die) before the doctor 3)___ (arrive). She 4)___ (turn) her eyes towards me. She 5)___ (anxious) to know about her mother. I 6)___ (collect) courage and 7)___(move) my lips and silently told her that her mother 8)___ (pass away).

9.Complete the following sentences with proper clauses.(2Marks)

- 1) God helps those
- 2) You should act.....
- 3) She cannot convince her husband.....
- 4) There are many places.....

SECTION C LITERATURE -30 MARKS

10. Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow (3marks)

- “ When did my childhood go?

Was it the day I ceased to be eleven,

Was it the time I realised that Hell and Heaven,

Could not be found in Geography,

And therefore could not be,

Was that the day!”

a. How did the poet realise his being grown up?

- b. What does the Hell and heaven stand for?
- c. What kind of phase of his life does the stanza reveal?
- d. What is the poet asking for?

11. Answer the following :(10Marks)

1. What did Sue say when she was asked by her father why she had not complained much about her grave injuries at the first instance?
2. Who was Tut? Why was his mummy scanned?
3. According to Lester Brown, what are the four principal biological systems of the earth?
4. Why was it difficult for Aram to believe the sight of his cousin Mourad with the beautiful white horse?
5. Why did the narrator resolve to forget the address, No 46, Marconi Street?
12. Do you think that Indian marriage system keeps Indian social fabric alive? How?(5Marks)
13. “A single event may change the course of the history of a nation.” Explain. (6marks)
14. Comment on Tsetan’s support to the author during the journey.(6Marks)