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TERM II EXAMINATION 2021-22
ENGLISH CORE
CLASS: XI

Time allowed: 2 hours

Maximum Marks: 40

General Instructions:

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

SECTION A – READING (13 marks)

1. Read the passage given below.

1. Caffeine is the world's most popular drug, regularly consumed by hundreds of millions of adults each day in coffee, tea, soft drinks and energy drinks. Most of us need it to get the day started. Without it we feel foggy and sluggish, yet too much can make us jittery and nauseous. But if we get the amount that's right for us, caffeine makes us pleasantly alert and productive, even slightly euphoric. We may be addicted, but is that a bad thing?
2. For most of us, it's not. Caffeine is a central nervous system stimulant that relieves fatigue and improves mood, concentration and focus. For sporty types, it can boost endurance. Health organizations worldwide suggest most people can safely consume up to 400 milligrams a day—roughly the amount that is in a litre of brewed coffee or two litres of black tea.
3. Consuming 600 milligrams or more a day is when things can, quite literally, get shaky: at that volume, some people experience tremors, increased blood pressure, an upset stomach, headaches, dizziness, heart palpitations and insomnia.
4. Then again, some people don't. Response to caffeine varies from person to person and is likely determined by two main genetic factors: how quickly your liver can metabolize caffeine, and whether your central nervous system is more sensitive to stimulatory effects.
5. While daily consumption doesn't usually disrupt the heart's rhythm enough to create dangerous irregular patterns, high doses can temporarily raise your heart rate and blood pressure—a danger for people with heart disease. In rare cases, too much caffeine has caused seizures and even death, though mostly among people consuming energy drinks.
6. Caffeine is often an ingredient in slim-down supplements because it may reduce feelings of hunger, but there's no solid evidence that consuming it leads to weight loss. "What's more important is what you put in your coffee," says Duane Mellor, a registered dietician and a senior teaching fellow at the Aston Medical School in Birmingham, England. "If it's black or with a little bit of milk, that's not a problem. But if you take it with a lot of milk or cream,

sugar or syrups, it's now a high-energy, high-fat drink." And that, he says, can be more problematic for your health than the shot or two of espresso.

7. For most people, caffeine's biggest drawback is that it can interfere with sleep, especially the deep 'slow-wave rest that's vital for the brain and body to recuperate. At its worst, sleep deprivation is associated with obesity and other chronic diseases like type 2 diabetes and depression. "If caffeine is disrupting your sleep, limit it or cut it out. It's a no-brainer, says Mellor. If you do choose to quit caffeine, an abrupt decrease in your consumption may cause headaches, irritability, difficulty focusing on tasks and other withdrawal symptoms. Take a breath and cut back slowly.

Based on your understanding of the passage answer ANY EIGHT questions from the nine given below. (1x8=8)

- i. Why does the author insist on the right amount of caffeine intake?
- ii. Why does the author think that getting addicted to caffeine is not a bad thing?
- iii. Mention any two side effects of caffeine overdose.
- iv. How does caffeine impact people with heart disease?
- v. Why does the author doubt the efficacy of caffeine in contributing to weight-loss?
- vi. State the reason why milk, cream sugar or syrups added to the coffee become more dangerous than coffee itself.
- vii. Rewrite the given sentence by replacing the underlined word with another one from para 7
The patient did not recover as rapidly as the doctor had expected.
- viii. Select a suitable phrase or word from para 4 to complete the following sentence
Interest rates _____ from bank to bank
- ix. List one likely impact of quitting caffeine abruptly.

2. Read the passage given below:

The dictionary defines luck as good fortune, events in life that cannot be controlled and seem to happen by chance. There are often too many people who explain their failures and ascribe them to ill luck. The idea in a defeatist mind is merely to pin the blame instead of working out the real reasons and to get going again in case results have not been in favour. Luck is a very small component of the outcome and has little say.

The prerequisites of success are actually sound vision, diligence, being passionate about goals, striving to build lasting relationships, enduring effort at self-improvement, self-discipline and taking risks without them being quixotic. Beyond that, all that remains is simply luck. Edison had defined genius thus : One per cent inspiration, 99 per cent perspiration. It is now a cliché but there is nothing else that captures the spirit of the theme as it does. People who seemingly are the world's envy and possess much of the world's wealth did not merely strike luck. These are the people who have worked hard at arriving where they are currently and keeping it that way. It is, however, a different story that there may be people who live lives of inaction and train guns at the 'lucky' guys who have all the wealth and power due to a stroke of fate, some part of which

could otherwise have been theirs. What they choose to selectively ignore is that the successful people work hard to put themselves into a position where good fortune can find them. Successful people do often enjoy their work that it does not seem like work. The process of clear thinking should be taught to the children early on so that they do not swim in the waters of confusion, wasting precious time. The children as well as young adults have to identify goals step-by-step. It is undoubtedly true that everybody wants to be rich, but the people visualize themselves in future is extremely abstract and cannot be laid in concrete, measurable terms that can be worked upon. The better defined a goal is the chance of attaining it is equally better. Everything you are and have today is the exact summation of countless thousands of little choices and decisions you made from the day you were first consciously able to make such choices. And stating it simply, those choices were mainly between action and inaction. Or putting it another way, between action and laziness. I'm not talking big, life-changing decisions here. I'm talking about tens of thousands of day by day, minute by minute choices like "shall I get up or lie in bed for another half hour?" It is the small choices which matter. The little day by day disciplines build into an inexorable force propelling you towards success and wealth. Therefore to wail about the fickle nature of Lady Luck is not a great idea, getting on with life of action and working towards attaining goals is

- i. **On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-heading. Use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary.** **3**
- ii. **Write a summary of the passage in about 40 words using the notes.****2**

SECTION B – WRITING & GRAMMAR (12 marks)

3. You are Rishikesh residing in MayurVihar Colony, Pune. Design a poster to create awareness among the residents about the importance of regular exercise.**3**
4. Attempt **ANY ONE** from **A** and **B** given below. **5**
 - A. You are John/Johnsy, a Class XI student of VikasVidyalaya, Jaipur. Write a letter to your Principal requesting him to provide career counselling classes.
 - B. Playing video games has become a popular activity for children. But there are divergent views about their effect on students' learning. The IT Club of your school is organizing a debate competition on the topic '*Video games have adverse effects on students*'. You have decided to participate in it. Write the debate in favour or against the motion. You are Nirranjan/Nirajana, GEMS School, Kolkata

5. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct options. ($\frac{1}{2} \times 4 = 2$)

When you (i) _____ story, experiences and truth with others, you gain a different level of respect. Listening to things and reading things with (ii) _____ autobiographical context is

something that has the ability to grip someone emotionally. In doing so, people (iii) _____ to reaffirm or rethink themselves and (iv) _____ morals..

- (i) A) share B) shared C) sharing D) shares
(ii) A) a B) an C) the D) no
(iii) A) are forcing B) are forced C) have forced D) had forced
(iv) A) our B) your C) their D) my

6. Do ANY TWO of the following as per the directions given in the brackets. Do not change the meaning of sentences(1x2=2)

- (i) If you do not take care of your health, you may fall ill (Begin the sentence with *Unless.....*)
(ii) The poem is too simple to need an explanation (Rewrite the sentence using 'so' in place of 'too')
(iii) He confessed his guilt. (Rewrite using the adjective form of 'guilt')

SECTION C –LITERATURE (15 marks)

7. Attempt any FIVE of the six questions given below, within 40 words each.(2x5=10)

- (i) What does Mr. Edgar S Woolard want to convey by assuming the post of his company's Chief Environmental Officer?
(ii) In what way was the author's experience at Hordifferent from earlier accounts of the place?
(iii) What does the rain try to establish by comparing itself to the Poem of Earth?
(iv) "Albert felt the medical certificate almost burning a hole in his pocket" Why did Albert feel so?
(v) Mrs Fitzgerald visits Pearson family again after two days and notes down her observations in her diary. Write any two points she noted on the conduct and behaviour of Miss Doris Pearson.
(vi) In an emergency, a doctor's experience, resourcefulness and practical approach become far more important than theoretical knowledge. Find an instance from the story "Birth" to validate this statement.

8. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words each. (5 marks)

- (i) How does Marcus Natten bring out the themes of childhood, hypocrisy and egotism through his poem 'Childhood'?
(ii) Taplow, with the help of some of his classmates, organises a farewell function in honour of Mr. Crocker Harris and delivers a speech praising his teacher. Write his speech.