

**PERIODIC ASSESSMENT – 3**

**ENGLISH**

**Class: XII Max Marks: 40**

**Date : 23.08.22 Time: 1hr 30min**

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| **General Instructions**  **This paper is divided into three sections:**  **Section A: Reading – (10marks)**  **Section B: Writing – (10marks)**  **Section C: Literature & Long reading text - (20marks)**  **All sections are compulsory.**  **Separate instructions have been given for each section and each question.**  **Follow these instructions carefully.**  **Do not exceed the word limit.** |

**SECTION –A (READING) - 20MARKS**

**Section - A Reading [10 Marks]**

**1. Read the following passage given below. (10m)**

(1) What amazing news for a new generation of students – Maths to be optional – is the new mantra from government that will potentially revolutionize the lives of students in grade 10 and upwards. I remember never enjoying Maths and to a degree I blame my poor understanding for many of my trials and tribulations at school and college. The horrors of long division and the dread of algebra. However, are we really going to now ‘educate’ innumerate kids or is there enough practical Maths given to survive in the world before grade10?

(2) I was an above-average kid in school. There used to be a ranking system, where I always competed to be in the top five. To be there, I’ve had many sleepless nights, long hours of tuition and this never-ending struggle

with my least favorite subject that used to always obstruct me from being the first name on the blackboard on the open-house day. I tell you though from these trials and tribulations I got my sense of competitiveness with myself and this is where my drive comes from. Nobody told me to take it easy, that’s how our education system works. The world of sin, cos, tan was making me sad, however, there was no solution to escape from it. I struggled on until graduation.

(3) However, I am all too aware of the negative impact that this can and is having on children. The prospect of failing through no fault of your own terrifies most adults and can have serious implication for youngsters. The real danger in sticking with the old system I went through is that kids get a sense of being ostracized from their peers and this can impact how they interact with group later. This move by Bombay HC may prove a blessing to so many mathematically challenged students, thanks in part to the psychiatrist who brought it to the court’s attention. Allowing them to drop Maths in grade 10 is sensible because of the huge pressure felt by the students, who fail to progress due to this single subject being impossible for them to comprehend. Dropping Maths as one of the compulsory subjects for matriculation –an idea that was first introduced in the 1960’s and is clearly now considered not the best way forward for all. The effect will be felt from 2017but unfortunately as yet there is no system to retrospectively activate it for kids passing through grade 10 from 2015-2017. Will this create a two-tier university entrance system or will it be a fairer way of allowing more students to enter subjects such as the arts or languages?

(4) It’s hard to say but there’s no doubt that at the root of the decision is student welfare and rights. This can only be a good thing and having passed through until grade ten everyday Maths won’t be a problem for most – the problem is that the more academic subject of Maths is not attainable for everyone. One option put forward is the study of Sanskrit. This has raised some eyebrows but there is no doubt as time goes on people will settle to the idea or there will be more elective subjects put forward. This however may look like a different system so much so that rather than a rigid set of 7 or 8 subjects, students will have the choice from a broader range allowing them to choose whatever they want and drop whatever they want.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions. (1 × 10 = 10)**

**(i)** What did the government plan to do to revolutionize the Class 10th and senior student education system?

**(ii)** What was the opinion of the author about the move to make Maths optional?(2m)

**(iii)** The narrator is critical of the old educational system. Why?

**(iv)** How was the move to make Maths an optional subject started?

**(v)** What type of student was the author like during her schooling days?

**(vi)** The author used the word “ostracized” when talking about students who were not doing well in Maths.What does this show?(2m)

**(vii)** What was the “amazing news” in the first paragraph?

(viii) Identify the word from the paragraph which means the same as the phrase given below.

**‘ Favourably inclined to one more than to another ‘**

**Section - B Writing [10 marks]**

**2.** **You have received an Invitation from your friend Dinesh ,Govt Senior Secondary School, Nadwai is organising a painting exhibition in the Town Hall of your city on 10th september 22–.The Principal of the school has invited you to inaugurate the exhibition at 11:00 a.m. You are Mr S.K. Jain, a renowned artist. Send a formal reply accepting the invitation..(5m)**

**3. You are Mr Harendra Singh. You have received an invitation from Mr Amit Lohar for dinner on 30th August 2022– at 7:30 p.m. at his residence arranged on the retirement of his respected father Shri S.N. Lohar. Write a formal reply declining the invitation.(5m)**

**Section - C Literature [20 marks]**

**4.Read the extract carefully and answer the questions. (6m)**

(i) "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,

**(a)What are we doing every day?**

**(b)Which evil things do we possess and suffer from?**

**(c)Explain ‘in spite of all’.**

**(d)Find words from the passage which mean (i) malice (ii) disappointment**

**(e) Write the rhyme scheme of the above lines.**

**5.Answer the following questions (40 to 50 words) (6m)**

(a) Edla sat and hung her head even more dejectedly than usual. Which two reasons forced her to behave in that manner?

(b) The peddler thinks that the whole world is a rattrap. This view of life is true only of himself and of no one else in the story. Comment.

**6. Answer the following statement/context in about 120 to 150 words: (8m)**

**(a) Why does Aunt Jennifer create animals that are so different from her own character? Explain the stark difference in the death of Aunt Jennifer and the tigers prancing.**