

Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

Code : 112014-301-A

Please check that this question paper contains **13** questions and **8** printed pages.

**CLASS-XI**  
**ENGLISH CORE**

**Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.**

**Maximum Marks : 80**

**General Instructions :**

- (i) *This paper consists of four sections– A, B, C, D and E.*
- (ii) *Attempt all questions.*
- (iii) *Do not write anything on the question paper.*
- (iv) *All the answers must be correctly numbered as in the question paper and written in the answer sheet provided to you.*
- (v) *Ensure that questions of each section are answered together.*
- (vi) *Read each question carefully and follow the instructions.*
- (vii) *Strictly adhere to the word limit given with each question. Marks will be deducted for exceeding the word limit.*

**Section-A (Reading Skills)**

**(15 Marks)**

**1. Read the following passage very carefully: (8)**

When in August 1976, the great European “Startrucking Tour” organised by Miles Copeland made a stopover for three days in the tiny town of Orange, in Provence, France, it was creating history of a sort. The Orange 75 festival was amazingly well attended, tens of thousands came to celebrate the festival and listen to the era’s biggest rock stars. But this was not the only history creating aspect of the festival. The biggest attraction, almost overshadowing the stars on stage, was the venue.

The wooden stage with its high thick stone wall that formed the backdrop, the 34 rows of stone steps resting against a gentle hill that the audience sat on, and the natural acoustics that amplified the sound for perfect listening, were not a creation of the 20th century. They dated back to just after 36 BC which is when the Romans found the city of Arausio, now called Orange.

By day, the theatre is a must-see on the tourists’ list. History walks by the side of the visitor, showing one how much the Roman theatre hold as clues to what is

understood as theatre today. The Theatre of Orange Catered to the Romans' love for drama. Comedies and tragedies, mime and slapstick performances strutted on the wooden stage that today is a perfect replica of the original.

Inspired by the very Greeks the Romans wished to conquer and rule over, the theatres of the Romans were built around the orchestra, which in those days meant the semicircular space at the foot of the tiered seats for the audience. A stone wall separated the orchestra from the stage, and was richly decorated. And the stage had curtains too that, instead of being lifted as we do now, were pushed down from above and sank into a trench in the space between.

Imagine the scene then : a stage 62 metres long and 13 meters wide, a stage wall running to an enclosure that held the steps that reached 37 meters height and was 103 meters in diameter. Imagine then this place filled with a thousand spectators, seated according to strictly marked hierarchy. The nobles and other persons of importance nearest the stage and the foreigners, artists, and poor at the very top, where, more likely than not, they would only get standing room. Shows would go on for days at a stretch and those who attended would come not just to watch but to chat and mingle. Men, women, children, slaves, lords, were all part of the audience, and there was no entry fee. The audience participation was huge; cheering, booing and applause was part of the feedback actors received.

The theatre's chequered history included performances that took place inside its limestone confine. From serious tragedies and thought-provoking satirical tragedies, the shows moved to the more popular slapstick and bloody action themes. The story goes that to appease the growing need for excitement, one performance had a man actually being killed on stage... on Nero's command, he was burnt at the stake to depict the anger of Hercules.

History played cruel tricks on the Theatre of Orange. The advent of Christianity in the 4th century AD resulted in a Bishop of Orange locking the doors. The invasions that followed in the 5th century destroyed parts of the theatre as barbarians ravaged the city. The steps, the wall decorations and the ornately carved imperial statue that held pride of place on the wall were torn down. Through the Middle Ages, the theatre was used as a resource; stones and mosaics would be pillages for reuse in building houses or watchtowers.

Time and again, the theatre found new uses. It was a sanctuary for inhabitants seeking shelter from massacres. It was a residential neighbourhood, with streets dividing the sections, to accommodate a growing populace and in the 18th century it served as a prison.

**(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best options : (1×2=2)**

- (a) The 'Startrucking Tour' was creating history in 1976 because :
- (i) The Orange 75 festival was very well attended
  - (ii) People got to listen to the biggest rock stars
  - (iii) The venue in itself was a grand attraction
  - (iv) Nothing of this sort had occurred earlier
- (b) The theatre's chequered history is shown by the fact that
- (i) From serious tragedies more popular comedies started being performed
  - (ii) Aman was actually killed on stage
  - (iii) It catered to the growing need of excitement
  - (iv) All of the above

**(b) Answer the questions (a to d briefly) : (1×4=4)**

- (a) What was so unique about the wooden stage in the Orange Festival ?
- (b) How did the shows prove to be a social affair during the ancient times ?
- (c) How had history played cruel tricks on the Theatre of Orange ?
- (d) Why was a man burnt at the stake during one of the performances ?

**(c) Find words from the passage which mean same as the following.**

- (i) To increase the intensity of a loudspeaker (para 2)
- (ii) A disapproving exclamation by an audience (para 5) (1×2=2)

**2. Read the following passage carefully : (7)**

Certain foods can rejuvenate and activate the body, including even stable mental health and the advisory positions about the remarkable healing power of food. These help to recognize, isolate and increase the intake of foods that have large amounts of disease fighting antioxidants, to identify the two kinds of fat the beneficial Omega-3 and the Omega-6, in which foods are commonly cooked and to alienate allergies caused by foods that work against the human metabolism.

Even oxygen has certain toxic forms called oxides, which spark off lethal reactions that have been linked to sixty odd chronic diseases, one of which is ageing. Antioxidants minimize the effects of oxidants. Plant foods, thankfully are packed with antioxidant agents. Scientists are now researching into an antioxidant "Status

Report” based on individual blood tests; if the antioxidants are funny low, specific food should be prescribed to boost the levels.

Fats come in two types – Omega-3 which is found in marine life and Omega-6 which is concentrated in vegetable oils. The first is good, the other is plain rotten. The best source of Omega-3 is preferably sea fish. But frying it in Omega-6 rich vegetable oil kills all its goodness. The third imperative in codifying food health is through identifying irritants.

While some food cause obvious and easily identified allergies like rashes others cause either delayed reactions or minor irritants which could, nonetheless, be a serious deterrent to general well-being. Obstinate amoebiosis, nagging depression, persistent headaches are the most obvious symptoms. Food plays a dramatic role in the alerting and fine tuning of brain cells to give them sharper concentration. An innocuous combination of red wine and cheese can trigger off migraine.

Ageing brains have low levels of thiamin, which is concentrated in wheat-germ and bran, nuts, meat and cereals. More good brain-food comes from liver, milk and almonds, which are rich in riboflavin and extremely good for memory. Carotene, available in deep green leafy vegetables and fruits, is good for geriatric brains. So is a high iron diet : it can make old brains gallop hyperactively like young ones. Iron comes from greens, liver, shell-fish, red meat and soyabeans. Sea food, very high in iron, is an excellent diet supplement. The New England Journal of Medicine reported in its May 1985 issue that 30 grams of fish a day could result in a dramatic drop in the chance of acquiring a cardiovascular disease. Sea fish, particularly shell-fish, crabs, mackerel and sardines are more effective than riverine fish because the latter is more vulnerable to chemical effluents. Eating cabbage more than once a week cuts cancer odds in men by 66 per cent. Raw cabbage juice has great anti-ulcer properties, as was scientifically proved by Garnet Cheney of the Stanford University about 30 years ago.

The onion is listed as a cardiovascular drug. Doctors advise an intake of at least half an onion a day to ward off heart diseases. Onions, both cooked and raw, have chemicals that promote thinning of blood. Raw onion is most effective and a lower dangerous LDL cholesterol levels most drastically.

The homely yoghurt bacteria in the stomach can knock out other bacteria which cause stomach upsets and infections. A cup of yoghurt a day spruces up the immune system. Garlic has magical powers : it can decrease blood cholesterol levels, unclog closed arteries, lower blood pressure and kill pain very effectively. According to a New York hospital, garlic contains a volatile oil called allylsuphate which is strong antiseptic with the ability to inhibit the growth of Koch’s bacillus.

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Suggest a suitable title for the passage. (5)
- (b) Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words using the notes made by you. (2)

**Section-B (Writing) (20 marks)**

3. You are Raman/Rashmi, the senior incharge of Green Fields School, Kanpur. Draft a notice to be put in the school notice board announcing remedial classes for weak students of classes IX to XII. Give relevant details. (50 words). (5)

**OR**

You are Samar/Samira. You want to sell your car as you have been transferred to Kolkata. Draft an advertisement to be published in the classifieds columns of a local newspaper. (5)

4. The massive destruction in Uttarakhand is a stark example of man's greed. Write an article on the need to protect our environment for our own benefit. (150 words.) (8)

**OR**

In order to raise funds for the cyclone affected victims of Odisha, your school organised a cultural night in which the student artists of your school and those from neighbouring schools presented various cultural programmes. The famous singer Sonu Nigam was the star attraction. You were also present in the programme. Write a report for your school magazine. You are Amit/Amita, the cultural captain.

5. In many parts of our country girls are still discouraged from going to school. Consequently a sizeable section of the population is deprived of education. Schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Laadli Scheme of the Delhi Government have come as a boon. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily on the need to educate the girl child. You are Anupam/Anupama of 12 Curzon Street, Lucknow. (150 words). (7)

**OR**

You are Nitin/Nikita staying at 15 Rose Apartments, Rohini, Delhi. Last month you bought an electric steam iron from "Electronic Palace" Pitampura, New Delhi against a warranty of 2 years. Now you discover that there is something wrong with the gadget. Write a letter to the dealer complaining about it.

**Section-C (Grammar) (10 marks)**

**6. Read the following passage. Each line contains an error. Find the error and write the correct word in the space provided. (½×8=4)**

	Incorrect	Correct
While many of India's national parks <u>has</u> been	has	have
(a) developed of the hunting preserves	_____	_____
(b) of princely state, Keoladeo, popularly known as	_____	_____
(c) Bharatpur Wildlife Sancutary, is perhaps a only	_____	_____
(d) case where the habitat has being created	_____	_____
(e) by a Maharaja. At earlier times	_____	_____
(f) Bharatpur town use to be flooded	_____	_____
(g) regularly each monsoon. In 1760	_____	_____
(h) an earthern dam call the Ajan Dam	_____	_____
was constructed.		

**7. In the passage given below one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after the omitted word. (½×8=4)**

	Before	Word	After
Swaminathan went to school that he was e.g.	school	feeling	that
(a) the worst perjurer earth. His conscience	_____	_____	_____
(b) bothered him; he wasn't all sure if he	_____	_____	_____
(c) had accurate in his description of Samuel.	_____	_____	_____
(d) He couldn't decide much of what he had	_____	_____	_____
(e) said was imagined and how much it was real.	_____	_____	_____
(f) He stopped for moment on the roadside	_____	_____	_____
(g) to make his mind about Samuel.	_____	_____	_____
(h) Swami was a dilemma what to do.	_____	_____	_____

**8. Reorder the following sentences in a meaningful sequence. (½×4=2)**

- (a) It is a technique of inserting and manipulating fine needles into specific points on the body to relieve pain.
- (b) Acupuncture is an ancient form of healing that dates back to Stone Age.

- (c) According to Chinese traditions acupuncture points are situated in meridians along which vital energy flows.
- (d) There is no known historical basis for the existence of acupuncture meridians.

**Section-D (Literature) (20 marks)**

**9. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :**

They talked of love and preached of love, (1×4=4 marks)  
But did not act so lovingly,  
Was that the day!

- (i) Who do 'they' refer to in these lines ?
- (ii) What do 'they' generally do ?
- (iii) What do 'they' not do ?
- (iv) What characteristics of 'they' are portrayed in these lines ?

**OR**

And the sea, which appears to have changed less,  
Washed their terribly transient feet.

- (i) Whose feet have been mentioned in the lines ?
- (ii) Mention the contrast that has been brought out.
- (iii) Explain 'terribly transient feet'.
- (iv) Mention a figure of speech in this line.

**10. Answer any five of the following questions in about 40 words each :**

- (i) What does the narrator mean by my grandmother could never have been pretty but she was always beautiful ?
- (ii) Why didn't Sue make more of her injury before her father when their ship was on the verge of capsizing ?
- (iii) What did the young king Tut do after coming to power ?
- (iv) Why did the narrator have a vivid memory of the address 46 Marconi Street ?
- (v) What is the most important issue raised in 'Mother's Day' ?
- (vi) What kind of person was the King in 'A Tale of Melon City' ? (2×5=10)

11. (a) Nani Palkhivala's essay "The Ailing Planet" is an eye opener about our moral obligation towards planet Earth. Elaborate. (50 words) (3)
- (b) What kind of a teacher and human being is Crocker Harris according to Taplow ? (50 words) (3)

**OR**

What are Einstein's views on education as revealed in his conversation with the history teacher ?

**Section-E (Novel) (15 marks)**

12. **Answer the following questions in 150 words :**

'The Canterville Ghost is a study of contrast'. Comment. (8)

**OR**

"...not even Heaven presented more attractions for me that time than did the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute in Virginia...". Why does Washington say this ? Briefly describe Washington's journey to Hampton and the difficulties he had to face.

13. The Canterville Ghost is the most important character of the novel. Elaborate. (7)

**OR**

What were the efforts of Booker T. Washington in addressing the concerns of the African-American population ?