

# CBSE Guess Paper – 2015

## English Class XII

### General Instructions:

This question paper is divided into three sections:

Section A - Reading : 30 Marks

Section B - Writing : 30 Marks

Section C - Literature: 40 Marks

### SECTION A [READING] 30 MARKS

Q1. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below: (11)

The New year is the time for resolution .Mentally, at least most of us could compile formidable lists of ‘do’s and ‘don’ts’. The same old favourites recur year in and year out with the children, do a thousand and one job about the house, be nice to people we don’t like, drive carefully, and take the dog for a walk every day. Past experience has taught us that certain accomplishments are beyond attainment. If we remain deep rooted liars, it is only because we have so often experienced the frustration that results from failure.

Most of us fail in our efforts at self improvement because our schemes are too ambitious and we never have time to carry them out. We also make the fundamental error of announcing our resolution to everybody so that we look even more foolish when we slip back into our bad old ways. Aware of these pitfalls, this year I attempted to keep my resolution to myself. I limited myself to two modest ambitions, to do physical exercise every morning and to read more in the evening. An overnight party on New Year’s Eve provided me with a good excuse for not carrying out either of these new resolutions on the first day of the year, but on the second, I applied myself assiduously to the task.

The daily exercise lasted only eleven minutes and I proposed to do them early in the morning before anyone had got up. The self discipline required to drag myself out of bed eleven minutes earlier than usual was considerable. Nevertheless, I managed to creep down into the living room for two days before anyone found me out. After jumping about in the carpet and twisted the human frame into uncomfortable positions.I sat down at the breakfast table in an exhausted condition. It was this that betrayed me. The next morning the whole family trooped into watch the performance. That was really unsettling but I fended off the taunts and jibes of the family good humouredly and soon everybody got used to the idea. However, my enthusiasm waned, the time I spent at exercises gradually diminished. Little by

little the eleven minutes fell to zero. By January 10th I was back to where I had started from. I argued that if I spent less time exhausting myself at exercises in the morning. I would keep my mind fresh for reading when I got home from work. Resisting the hypnotizing effect of television, I sat in my room for a few evenings with my eyes glued to a book. One night, however, feeling cold and lonely, I went downstairs and sat in front of the television pretending to read. That proved to be my undoing, for I soon got back to the old bad habit of dozing off in front of the screen. I still haven't given up my resolution to do more reading. In fact, I have just bought a book entitled 'How to Read a Thousand Words a Minute'. Perhaps it will solve my problem, but I just have not had time to read it.

1.1 Choose the most appropriate option: (1\*3=3)

a. Which pitfalls are mentioned?

- (i) lack of time & interest
- (ii) lack of resources
- (iii) ambitious plans & disclosing to all
- (iv) making new year resolutions

b. The excuse the writer gave for leaving workout

- (i) he has no time
- (ii) he gets too tired to read
- (iii) he gets no time to sleep
- (iv) he feels cold

c. The paragraph focuses on

- (i) making resolutions and not fulfilling them
- (ii) celebrating new year
- (iii) watching television to avoid boredom
- (iv) none of the above

1.2. Answer the following questions briefly: (1\*6=6)

- a. Why most of us fail in our efforts for self-improvement?
- b. Why is it a basic mistake to announce our resolution to everybody ?
- c. Why did the writer not carry out his resolution on New Year's Day ?
- d. How was the writer supposed to fulfil self discipline?
- e. What made the writer drop his idea?
- f. Mention three ways, as given in the passage, we can realise our goals .

1.3. Find words from the passage which mean the same as: (1\*2=2)

a. Overwhelming

b. Drawbacks

Q2. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below: (11)

LINES WRITTEN IN EARLY SPRING

I heard a thousand blended notes,  
While in a grove I sate reclined,  
In that sweet mood when pleasant thoughts  
Bring sad thoughts to the mind.

To her fair works did Nature link  
The human soul that through me ran;  
And much it grieved my heart to think  
What man has made of man.

Through primrose tufts, in that green bower,  
The periwinkle trailed its wreaths; 10  
And 'tis my faith that every flower  
Enjoys the air it breathes.

The birds around me hopped and played,  
Their thoughts I cannot measure:--  
But the least motion which they made  
It seemed a thrill of pleasure.

The budding twigs spread out their fan,  
To catch the breezy air;  
And I must think, do all I can,  
That there was pleasure there. 20

If this belief from heaven be sent,  
If such be Nature's holy plan,  
Have I not reason to lament  
What man has made of man?

2.1. Choose the most appropriate option:

a) How does the poet feel after seeing nature?

- i) happy
- ii) sad
- iii) mixed feeling
- iv) philosophical

b) Which of the following is correct as per the poem?

- i) pleasure is everywhere
- ii) pleasure is everywhere except in poet's mind
- iii) humans do not enjoy nature
- iv) humans enjoy nature

c) Why does the poet seem to be sad?

- i) man is killing man
- ii) man is not enjoying nature
- iii) Man has become selfish
- iv) man is killing nature

2.2. Answer the following questions briefly:

- i) Where did the poet hear the melodious music?
- ii) Why did the poet feel sad?
- iii) What does the poet justify in the last two lines of the first stanza?
- iv) How did the birds behave?
- v) Why does the poet feel convinced that "there was pleasure there"?
- vi) What does the poet think about Nature's plan?

2.3. Find words in the passage similar in meaning as:

- a) regret
- b) jumped

Q2. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below: (8)

For many of us, our lives are composed of millions of meaningless moments, all strung together perhaps with a sprinkling of sacred moments mixed in. I am sure you can think of a few sacred moments in your own life. Maybe your marriage, the birth of your child or perhaps a heartfelt moment of connection with good friends. These are the moments when we are consumed with joy and awe. At these moments, we are fully present in the moment. We are worrying about tomorrow, or trying to rush through the experience to get to the next. We are in the now, and the now is amazing.

Why do we wait for major events to honour these sacred moments? Why can't every day be sacred? Every moment? Each moment is sacred, if we decide to make it that way. I stated above that our lives are filled with meaningless moments, but those moments are meaningless only because we don't honour them. We are hurrying along, focused on other things, not stopping to notice them at all. They come and go without any acknowledgment from us. Honoring the sacred means simply choosing to make each moment count. It is a tiny shift in perception that assigns meaning and importance to each moment. It means stopping to notice the beauty and love around us, and within us. It means being fully present in each moment, because only the present moment truly exists.

So many of us worry about the future, hold regrets about the past, and completely ignore the present. When we give the now our full attention even mundane tasks can take on an aura of holiness. Then our lives become millions of meaningful moments. Nothing has changed except our perception, but it makes all the difference.

How do we change our perception to one of sacredness? What does it mean to stay in the present moment? Let's use an example : washing dishes. When most of us wash dishes, we hurry through it, often thinking about the million other things we need to get done that day (or the next day). Our minds are scattered all over the place, focusing on everything but what we are doing. Who can blame us? Washing dishes is not the most exciting experience. However, if we choose to make it a sacred experience, we will want to focus on it. We want to take our time and really pay attention to how the water feels on our hands, how the soap cleanses away the grease and grime, and the sense of satisfaction we get as each dish moves from the dirty pile to the strainer, now clean and shiny. Maybe that still doesn't sound very thrilling. Let's look at what else is happening. As we give our full attention to washing the dishes, we are not only doing, we are being. Ah, that is the key. It doesn't matter what we're doing or not doing in each moment of our lives, It matters only that we become aware of

our own state of Being. In those moments, we are fully alive and conscious. We are connected to everything, and we are one with everything. We are. Have you ever embarked on a walking meditation? This can be great practice to help you honour the sacred in your own life. Many of us walk for health or recreation, but we can also walk for spiritual awareness. A walking meditation is a slow, focused walk where you give your full attention to each step you take, the feel of your muscles working, your breathing, and even your surroundings.

Especially if you walk someplace in nature, a place with lots of trees and wildlife. The trick is to not let your mind wander, but stay focused on the now. It can take practice, but once you accomplish it, you will return from your walks fully refreshed and revitalised.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using recognizable abbreviations (minimum 4) wherever necessary. Use a format you consider appropriate Supply a suitable Title. (5 Marks)

(b) Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words. (3 Marks)

#### SECTION –B (WRITING) 30 MARKS

Q4. Avani/ Arpita , a student of Class XII has found a wallet in the school canteen . In addition to cash ,it contains some receipts and bills. Write a notice for the school notice board inviting the rightful owner to claim it after giving the details of the wallet and its contents. (50 words) (4)

OR

You are the Secretary of Creative Club of your school. Prepare a graceful poster for on the spot painting contest in your school.

Q5. You are Raman/ Revati, a member of Parent-Teacher Association of Little Valley Senior Secondary School , Hyderabad. Write a letter to the Principal of your school asking him to introduce vocational stream in the school providing facility of teaching such subjects as Computer, Insurance etc so that students may not needlessly continue academic studies. You are residing at 15, Anand Colony Hyderabad. (6)

OR

Write a letter to the Editor of The Times Of India about the poor attention and the negligence on the part of the Medical staff in some of the government hospitals of Chennai. You are Per/Yana , of No 117 , Vasant Vihar New Delhi.

Q6. You are Rohini/Rohan . Your school, KRM Secondary School , Gurgaon organized a workshop on how to conserve energy. A number of CBSE Schools participated in it. Many

eminent personalities addressed the students. Write a report in 150-200 words for your school magazine. (10)

OR

Write an article for the school magazine on “ Role of youth in Nation Building” . You are Ravi/ Rashika of Modern School , Delhi. (150-200 words)

Q7. Aruna Pillai is the Cultural Secretary of her school. She has been asked to present a brief speech on the Co-Curricular activities of the school for the Annual Day. Write the speech in 150-200 words. (10)

OR

You are chosen for your representing yourschool at the Regional Level Inter School Debate Contest. Prepare a debate on the same on the topic “ Newspapersought out contain more news and fewewr advertisements.

### SECTION C [ TEXT BOOKS &LONG READING TEXT]

Q8. Read the following stanza and answer the given questions: (1\*4=4)

For once on the face of the earth  
Let's not speak in any language  
Let's stop for one second,  
And not move our arms so much

- i) What appeal is the poet making?
- ii) What will be the advantage of not speaking in any language?
- iii) What do the words “stop” and “move” signify?
- iv) Why is meditation necessary for human life?

OR

Surely, Shakespeare is wicked, the map a bad example  
With ships and sun and love tempting them to steal  
For lives that slyly turn into their cramped holes  
From fog to endless nights.

- i) Why does the poet consider map as a bad example?
- ii) Why is Shakespeare wicked?
- iii) What do you understand by fog to endless night? Which poetic device is used here?

Q9. Read the following questions and answer only four : ( 40-50 words)(3\*4=12)

- i) What are the different kinds of wars mentioned in the poem? What is Meruda's attitude towards these wars?
- ii) Why was Roger Skunk's mummy angry? Does her anger seem justified?he decide to do?
- iii) How did the Tiger King celebrate his victory over killing of the hundredth tiger?
- iv) Why did Edla still entertain the peddler even after she knew the truth about about him?
- v) " What a thunder clap these words were to me". Which words were those that shocked and surprised little Franz?

Q10. " And then in the midst of terror came a touch of reason". This touch of reason helped Douglas in overcoming his fear . Courage, optimism and perseverance to achieve one's mission are the important ingredients of success. Elucidate. ( 120-150 words) (6)

Q11. Read the following questions . Answer only one: (120-150 words) (6)

Describe the metaphor of the Rattrap. How did the peddler get out of the rattrap he had fallen into.

OR

Sadao used his skills as a doctor not only to keep the prisoner alive but also to safeguard himself and his family.nElaborate with reference to the story " The Enemy"

Q12. Describe the first meeting of Dr. Kemp and Griffin. (6)

Q13. Write a brief character sketch of Thomas Marvel. (6)