

CLASS: IX

**General Instructions:**

- (i) The question paper is divided into three sections:
- |                                |          |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Section A: Reading             | 20 marks |
| Section B: Writing and Grammar | 30 marks |
| Section C: Literature          | 30 marks |
- (ii) All questions are compulsory.  
(iii) You may attempt any section at a time.  
(iv) All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

**SECTION A- (READING)**

(20 marks)

(8)

**Q1. Read the following passage carefully:**

- Chocolate diamonds are actually brown diamonds and compared to the well known white diamonds they are not worth much. Diamonds are produced in mines. The best known diamond mines are in Australia, South Africa and Russia. The largest diamond mine was discovered in 1976 in the desert of Australia near a little creek named Lake Argyle. Diamonds are created under very extreme conditions of pressure and high temperature. It is a general misunderstanding that there exists only white colourless diamonds. Actually, diamonds exist in many different colours.
- Of all the diamond mines in the world almost 80% of all the diamonds produced are brownish in colour. Because they were found in such large quantities compared to the other coloured diamonds, they were considered as low valued diamonds only good for the industrial sector. But a famous man called Le Vian came with a marketing campaign to increase the popularity of chocolate diamond. Instead of calling it a brown diamond, he gave it popular names like caramel, chocolate, cinnamon and cognac. Since his marketing campaign, chocolate diamonds are becoming very popular.
- The value of a diamond is based on its shape, brightness and colour. Because white diamonds are rare, their value is based on the fact that there are not many white diamonds around. But if you look at the shape and brightness, then the brightest diamond in the world known to man is a brown diamond. Before the development of the Argyle diamond mine in Australia in 1986, most brown diamonds are considered worthless for jewellery; they were not even assessed on the diamond colour scale, and were predominantly used for industrial purpose.
- However, marketing strategies changed in the 1980s and brown diamonds became popular gems. The change was mostly due to supply: the Argyle mine, with its 35 million carats of diamonds per year, makes about one third of global production of natural diamonds; 80% of Argyle diamonds are brown. The percentage of brown diamonds is lower in other mines, but it is almost always a significant part of the total production. Consequently, scientific research has intensified on causes of brown colour in diamonds and ways to alter them.

**1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any eight of the following questions: (1x8=8)**

- What is the wrong notion about diamonds?
- State two characteristics of brown diamonds.
- How did brown diamonds become popular?
- On what factor is the value of a diamond based?

- e) Why are white diamonds rare?
- f) What are the popular names given to brown diamonds by Le Vian?
- g) Based on shape and brightness, which is the brightest diamond known to mankind?
- h) In what conditions are diamonds created?
- i) Which word in **Para no. 2** means 'to engage in a planned operation'?

**Q2. Read the following passage carefully:**

(12)

1. In the last few years, I have noticed a tendency in the media, in the Government, and in society to give undue importance and much publicity to commercial successes, foreign investment, Sensex, profits in the IT sector, new billionaires and such matters, like nowhere else in the world. Great recognition is given to salaries given to IIM graduates. There are frequent competitions in the media to pick the most popular personality in the country or in any given city. The choices given are so skewed that only sports personalities, cine stars and business leaders hit the spotlight.
2. Nowhere in the world do sportsmen earn as much as in India through sponsorship. The heroes of today, therefore, appear to be those who have made big money or have been successful in commercial ventures. Nobody can be jealous or critical of these things, but it is a matter of concern that repeated recognitions of this sort have affected our value system seriously and changed it into one that is mercenary and commercial. This situation does not augur well for the future of our country.
3. With all the difficulties that we have had in the last few decades, India has continued to progress as one country, by and large because of Indianness. Indianness involves aspects other than money and commercial successes. Furthermore, if we want India of the future to be a country that is advanced in all spheres, we have to take greater pride in intellectual and creative accomplishments. It is, therefore, important that our leaders, politicians, intellectuals, teachers and others should talk about these matters in public and highlight our innovations in science, arts and literature, theatre and other aspects related to human creativity.
4. One is not asking for monetary support here, but a moral support, and a commitment of society to all spheres of creative activity so that a balanced future for our country is assured.

**2.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any four of the following questions in about 30-40 words each:**

(2x4=8)

- a) According to the passage, who are the ones that come under the spotlight and get maximum media coverage?
- b) Why are there less people who hit the spotlight?
- c) What according to this passage is 'Indianness'?
- d) To make India a great country what should our focus be on?
- e) How can political leaders, intellectuals and teachers contribute towards spreading the idea of 'Indianness'?

2.2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, complete any two of the following sentences: (1x2=2)

- a) In the past few years, much publicity and undue importance is .....
- b) The means of earning money for sportsmen in India is .....
- c) In the media world, there is always competition .....

2.3. Find out words that mean the same as the words / phrases given below. Attempt any two of the following: (1x2=2)

- a) to focus attention on (Paragraph 1)
- b) achievements (Paragraph 3)
- c) a new idea or product (Paragraph 3)

**SECTION B: (WRITING & GRAMMAR)**

(30 marks)

Q3. Many students have lost the habit of writing due to the frequent use of computers. This has resulted in the slow death of writing as a skill. Write an article suggesting measures of giving importance to writing by hand in about 120 words. (8)

OR

You paid a visit to an orphanage called 'Ashramshala' with your teachers and classmates. Write a diary entry of what you saw and experienced there in about 120 words. (8)

Q4. Write a short story, in about 200-250 words, with any one set of the clues given below. Give a suitable title to the story. (10)

It was Saturday. Veena got up late. Her parents had gone to office. Veena remembered that she had planned .....

OR

I had gone to my tuition class in the evening. The weather was pleasant. When I came out of the class to go home, suddenly.....

Q5. Rearrange any four of the following word clusters to make meaningful sentences: (1x4=4)

- a) I / the company / will join / me / offer / they / if / good salary / a
- b) tragedy / yesterday / a terrible / witnessed / I
- c) in this area / I / so many / seldom / have / seen / birds
- d) the news / panicked / as soon as / he / heard / he
- e) could land / the helicopter / it / before / burst / into fire

Q6. In the following paragraph one word has been omitted in each line. Write down the missing word in any four sentences of the given paragraph, along with the word that comes before and after.

(1x4=4)

	Before	Missing	After
I went camping to Dhanaulti six of my friends a during	a).....	.....	.....
the winter break. It a seven day trip. We went by	b).....	.....	.....
bus and reached there by the evening. We camped			
out in woods. The night sky was mostly clear and	c).....	.....	.....
we enjoyed the beauty of the moon the stars. It	d).....	.....	.....
was wonderful to see thousands stars in the sky	e).....	.....	.....

Q7. Choose the correct alternative and rewrite the sentences. (Any four)

(1x4=4)

- That book of mine (has/ have) been missing for many years.
- The street was so crowded that we (had cancelled/ cancelled) the shopping plans.
- The car beside (me/ mine) is Arjun's
- The director and manager (is/ are) attending the function
- If I had time, I (could have gone/ could go) to the gym.

**SECTION C: LITERATURE - (TEXTBOOK AND LONG READING TEXT)**

(30 Marks)

Q8. Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions that follow. Write the answers in your answer sheet in one or two lines only.

(1x4= 4)

"I come from haunts of coot and hern;  
I make a sudden sally  
And sparkle out among the fern,  
To bicker down a valley."

- Who does 'I' refer to?
- What is the figure of speech used in the first line?
- From where does the brook originate?
- Explain 'I make a sudden sally'.

OR

'Oh! I'm fed up with the place.'

- Who spoke these words to whom?
- Which place is she fed up with and why?
- Pick out the word from this line which is similar in meaning to 'depressed'.
- What frame of mind is the speaker in?

Q9. Answer any four of the following questions in 30-40 words each:

(2x4 = 8)

- Describe the first impression of Miss Allyn's house on John Pescud?
- Private Quelch looked like a 'Professor' when the author first met him at the training depot. Why?
- Justify the title of the drama 'Villa for Sale'.
- Why was the poet fascinated by the solitary reaper's song?
- In what sense are men and women merely players on the stage of life?

Q10. Attempt any one out of the two following long answer type questions in 100-120 words.

(1x8=8)

"The Bishop is a living example of selfless sacrifices, childlike innocence and a representative of true Christian values." Justify the statement by giving examples from the drama 'The Bishop's Candlesticks'.

OR

The lesson 'How I Taught My Grandmother To Read' has two parallel stories running side by side. Both are inspiring, poignant, value based and stirring our deepest emotions. Do you agree? Express your views.

Q11. Answer any one of the following questions based on prescribed novel text for extended reading in about 200-250 words.

(1x10=10)

Why was Gulliver expelled from the country of Houyhnhnms? Why did he develop a feeling of disgust for his fellow human beings and his family?

OR

Jonathan Swift's 'Gulliver's Travels' is basically a novel of adventure and a tale of wonder of strange and wonderful lands. Elaborate and illustrate the statement.