

**GULFSAHODAYA (SAUDI CHAPTER) EXAMINATION \_2013**

**SUBJECT: ENGLISH**

**(SET A)**

**MAX. MARKS : 100**

**GRADE XI**

**TIME: 3hrs**

**General Instructions:**

**No. of pages: 6**

**1) The Question paper is divided into 5 sections: A, B, C, D & E. All Sections are compulsory.**

**2) Separate instructions are given along with each question. Read the instructions carefully and follow them faithfully.**

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**Section A Reading \_ 15 marks**

1) Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow. (8)

1. Right now, I am looking at a shelf full of relics, a collection of has-beens, old-timers, antiques, fossils. Right now I am looking at a shelf full of books. Yes, that's right. If you have some spare cash (the going rate is about \$89) and are looking to enhance your reading experience, then I highly suggest you consider purchasing an e-reader. E-readers are replacing the books of old, and I welcome them with open arms (as you should).

2. If you haven't heard of an e-reader and don't know what it is, then please permit the following explanation. An e-reader is a device that allows you to read e-books. An e-book is a book-length publication in digital form, consisting of text, images, or both, and produced on, published through, and readable on computers or other electronic devices. Sometimes the equivalent of a conventional printed book, e-books can also be born digital. The Oxford Dictionary of English defines the e-book as "an electronic version of a printed book," but e-books can and do exist without any printed equivalent.

3. So now you know what an e-reader is. But you still may be wondering why they put printed books to shame. E-readers are superior to printed books because they save space, are environmentally friendly, and provide helpful reading tips and tools that printed books do not. E-readers are superior to printed books because they save space. The average e-reader can store thousands of digital books, providing a veritable library at your fingertips. What is more, being the size and weight of a thin hardback, the e-reader itself is relatively petite. It is easy to hold and can fit in a pocket book or briefcase easily. This makes handling ponderous behemoths such as War and Peace, Anna Karenina, and Les Misérables a breeze. Perhaps the only drawback to the space-saving aspect of an e-reader is that it requires you to find new things to put on your shelves.

4. In addition, e-readers are superior to books because they are environmentally friendly. The average novel is about 300 pages long. So, if a novel is printed 1000 times, it will use 300,000 pieces of paper. That's a lot of paper! If there are about 80,000 pieces of paper in a tree, this means it takes almost 4 trees to make these 1000 books. Now, we know that the average bestseller sells about 20,000 copies per week. That means that it takes over 300 trees each month to sustain this rate. And for the super bestsellers, these figures increase dramatically. For example, the Harry Potter book series has sold over 450 million copies. That's about 2 million trees! Upon viewing these figures, it is not hard to grasp

the severe impact of printed books on the environment. Since e-readers use no trees, they represent a significant amount of preservation in terms of the environment and its resources.

5. Finally, e-readers are superior to books because they provide helpful reading tips and tools that printed books do not. The typical e-reader allows its user to customize letter size, font, and line spacing. It also allows highlighting and electronic bookmarking. Furthermore, it grants users the ability to get an overview of a book and then jump to a specific location based on that overview. While these are all nice features, perhaps the most helpful of all is the ability to get dictionary definitions at the touch of a finger. On even the most basic e-reader, users can conjure instant definitions without having to hunt through a physical dictionary. It can be seen that e-readers are superior to printed books. They save space, are environmentally friendly, and provide helpful reading tips and tools that printed books do not. So what good are printed books? Well, they certainly make nice decorations.

a) i) According to the author, an e-book is \_\_\_\_\_ (6x1=6)

ii) How did e-books put printed books to shame?

iii) Why is it said that e-books are environmentally friendly?

iv) An e-reader is relatively petite. why?

v) According to the passage War and Peace, Anna Karenina, and Les Misérables are

a. authored by Europeans

b. dense and impenetrable

c. timeless classics

d. awkward or unwieldy

vi) As used in paragraph 1, it can be inferred that "relics," "has-beens, old-timers, antiques, fossils" are all words that describe something.

a. torn up (b) useless (c) outdated (d) pathetic

b) Find synonyms for the following words from the passage. (2x1=2)

i) maintain (para 4)

ii) huge ( para 3)

2) Read the following passage.

As what geographers have estimated, about twenty percent of the earth's surface is occupied by deserts. A majority of us view deserts as one unique kind of landscape -- areas with little or no rainfalls. In actual fact, there are differences between the deserts, though in varying degrees. While it is common for laymen like us to see deserts as rocky or covered with gravel or pebbles, there are some where large sand dunes inhabit. Despite the fact that rainfall is minimal, temperatures do change in deserts,

ranging from seasonal ones to daily changes where extreme hotness and coldness are experienced in the day and night.

Unfavorable conditions in the deserts, especially the lack of water, have discouraged many living things from inhabiting these landscapes. Nevertheless, there are exceptionally surviving ones which through their superb tactics, have managed to live through and are still going strong. One such kind is the specialist annual plants which overcome seasonal temperature changes with their extremely short, active life cycles. In events of sudden rain, the plant seeds pullulate and grow very quickly to make full use of the rain water. Their flowers bloom and set seeds that ripen quickly in the hot sun too. Once the water runs dry, the mother plant dies, leaving behind the drought-resistant seeds, waiting patiently for the next rainy season to arrive.

The Cacti, a native in American deserts, adapts to the dry surroundings by having unique body structures. The plant has swollen stems to help store water that carries it through months. By having sharp pines instead of leaves, water loss through respiration is minimized. Besides, these pointed pines also help the plant ward off grazing animals, thus enhancing its survival period.

Besides plants, there are also animals with distinct surviving tactics in deserts too. For instance, Skinks (desert lizards) metabolize stored fats in their bulbous tails, producing water to supplement their needs, just like what camels do with the stored food in their humps during long journeys through deserts. Antelopes like the addax, have very low water needs and hence are able to tolerate the conditions in deserts, extracting moisture from the food they eat.

Finally, there are the sand grouses (desert birds) which do not have special features to overcome the drought-like nature in deserts. Hence, to survive in these hot, dry deserts, they need to spend a large part of their time flying in search of waterholes.

i) Based on the reading of the passage make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations. Give a suitable title to the passage. (5)

ii) Write a summary of the passage. (2)

### **Section B Writing Skills -20 marks**

3) You want to buy a second hand car. Draft an advertisement in 50 words for the Indian Express giving your preference . (5)

Or

How are life style change and climate change related? Design a poster in 50 words to bring out the relationship.

4) Write an article in 150-200 words on the increasing trend among the youth today to go abroad for higher studies. Sign yourself as Vineeth/ Vineetha. (8)

Or

In the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century , 'Team Building' became recognized by many companies as an important factor in providing a quality service and remaining competitive.

What are the qualities required to be a good team member? Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered to the students of Classes IX-XII about the importance of Team Building and how to be a good Team member.

5) In India around 13-14% of school children suffer from learning disorders. Unfortunately, most schools fail to lend a sympathetic ear to their problems. As a result these children are branded as failures. Samir Patel, a child psychiatrist, opines that early detection of these disorders, acceptance by parents, broad awareness among academic community and above all a mature handling of the problem will help the students with LD lead a productive life. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily expressing your views on the need for awareness regarding learning disorders. (7)

Or

Draft a job application letter for the post of TGT (English) in Bal Bharathi School, Jaipur that was advertised in The Times Of India on 4<sup>th</sup> February 20XX. You are Aroma /Arun.

**Section C Grammar -10 Marks**

6) The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line against which a blank is given. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet against the correct blank number. (1/2X8=4)

There are much environmental issues facing a)-----  
our world today. If an year is given to improve b)-----  
the earth's environment I will focuses on one issue c)-----  
the world facing today, it was our reliance on oil. d)-----  
This reliance is very strong that we have started e)-----  
wars, killed and deceive people for oil. We must f)-----  
do something about it and tried to find an alternative g)-----  
form of energy otherwise soon that problem will become h)-----  
too much for us to handle and by then it will be too late.

7) In the passage given below one word has been missing in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after, in your answer sheet. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined. (1/2X8=4)

The Commonwealth Games a multinational, a)-----  
multi-sport event held four years. It involves b)-----  
the elite athletes of Commonwealth of Nations. c)-----

Attendance at the Commonwealth Games typically d)-----  
 around 5,000 athletes. The Commonwealth Games  
 Federation (CGF) is the organization is responsible e)-----  
 for the direction control of the Commonwealth Games. f) -----  
 The first event, then known as British Empire g)-----  
 Games, was held 1930 in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. h)-----

8) Look at the words and phrases given below. Rearrange them to form meaningful sentences.

- (a) beholder/beauty /eyes/lies/the/of/the/in/ (1/2x4=2)  
 (b) India/literary/goes/tradition/the/of/more/3000/back/than/years/ to/  
 (c) reflection/thoughts/man's/Face/the/of/is.  
 d) looked/he/on/always/side/things/of/the bright

**Section D Textual Questions -20 Marks**

9) Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow: (4)

- a) When did my childhood go?  
 Was it the time I realised that adults were not all they seemed to be.  
 i) Name the poem and poet. (2)  
 ii) How does the poet attempt to answer his question in the first line of the extract? (1)  
 iii) What aspect of adult behaviour does the poet convey in the lines following the above? (1)

( Or )

- b) Yet have I killed  
 The seed I spent or sown it where  
 The land is his and none of mine?  
 i) Name the poem and the poet. (2)  
 ii) What does the father mean by 'the seed I spent'? (1)  
 iii) Explain the last line of the extract. (1)

10) Answer any five of the following in 40 words. (5X2=10)

- i) In the poem 'Voice of the Rain' there is a parallel drawn between rain and music. Which words indicate this? Explain the similarity between the two.

ii) The theme of Mother's Day is universal. Why?

iii) The notice "The world's most dangerous animal at a cage in the zoo at Lusaka" is a pointer to the mankind. How?

iv) Tut was buried in March or April. How did Carter conclude this?

v) What did the narrator recall about her first meeting with Mrs. Dorling?

vi) What do the words "just and placid" imply in the poem "The Tale of Melon City"?

11) Answer any one of the following in 150 words.

(1X6=6)

i) Andrew's visit to the Morgans gave him pleasure and satisfaction that he had not achieved earlier. Justify.

Or

ii) The grandmother in 'The Portrait of a Lady' herself was not formally educated, but was serious about the author's education. How does the text support this?

**Section E Long Reading Text \_ Novel(15 marks)**

Attempt Part A or Part B.

Part A

12) Miss Olive A Davidson was a woman of experience coupled with devotion. Elaborate. (Answer in 150 words). (8)

13) What was the insight that the narrator got into General Armstrong's character on his first visit to Tuskegee? ( Answer in 130 words) (7)

Part B

12) Describe the gothic elements in The Canterville Ghost. (Answer in 150 words). (8)

13) Bring out the humour in The Canterville Ghost. ( Answer in 130 words) (7)

**Listening & Speaking ( 5+5=10)**

**Reading Project (10)**

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SET A(7)