

UP Board Class 12 English Set 316 (DX) Question Paper 2024 with Solution

Time Allowed :3 hours 15 minutes	Maximum Marks :100	Total questions :12
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Instructions

1. First 15 minutes are allotted to the candidates for reading the question paper.
2. This question paper is divided into four sections – A, B, C, and D.
3. All questions from all the sections are **compulsory**.
4. Marks are indicated against each question.

SECTION A: Reading

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Passage:

The persons who worked in the mines were mainly criminals or prisoners of war, but with those, there were many Romans of good family, who were the innocent victims of the Emperor's wrath. All alike were forced to labour, without distinction of sex or birth. The labourers were under the eye of a merciless overseer, who showered blows upon them at the slightest provocation. In order to keep down the expenses, no clothes were provided for the prisoners, and often they possessed not a rag to hide their nakedness. In good or bad health they were forced to work, and neither the weakness of age nor the fever or sickness was regarded as proper cause for idleness even of an hour. Nor was there any chance to escape, for sentries were posted on every hilltop, and the soldiers were ready to give chase, should a man elude the watchman. So great were the sufferings of life, that death was hailed with joy and it was

the dying man who possessed a single thought of happiness.

(a) Who were the victims of the Emperor's wrath?

Answer:

The victims of the Emperor's wrath were criminals, prisoners of war, and many innocent Romans from good families who were unjustly forced to labour in the mines.

Quick Tip

Emperor talks about the victims of Romans and its labour.

(b) "All alive were forced to labour, without distinction of sex or birth." What do you mean by this statement?

Answer: This statement means that all individuals, regardless of their gender or social status, were subjected to the same harsh and inhumane treatment. Everyone, including innocent people, criminals, and prisoners of war, was forced to work under the oppressive system without any regard for their personal circumstances.

Quick Tip

In historical contexts, such statements often highlight the lack of fairness and humanity in oppressive systems.

(c) Why were clothes not provided for the prisoners?

Answer: Clothes were not provided to the prisoners to reduce expenses and humiliate them. This lack of basic necessities symbolized their dehumanization and the extreme cruelty they faced under the oppressive rule.

Quick Tip

The absence of basic needs for prisoners often reflects the extent of inhumanity in oppressive regimes.

(d) Why was death hailed with joy?

Answer: Death was hailed with joy because it was seen as a release from the unbearable suffering and indignities faced by the prisoners. Their lives were filled with hardship, humiliation, and pain, making death a welcome escape from their misery.

Quick Tip

In contexts of extreme suffering, death can sometimes be perceived as a form of liberation.

(e)(i) Find the word from the passage that means ‘anger’.

Answer: The word from the passage that means ‘anger’ is **wrath**.

(ii) Explain ‘showered blows’ as used in the passage.

Answer: ‘Showered blows’ refers to the frequent and severe physical punishment inflicted on the prisoners by the overseers for even minor provocations. It symbolizes the brutal treatment they endured.

(iii) Which word in the passage is the opposite of ‘sadness’?

Answer: The word in the passage that is the opposite of ‘sadness’ is **joy**.

Quick Tip

Understanding the context of words helps in deriving precise meanings and opposites.

SECTION B: Writing

2. Write an article on any one of the following topics in about 100–150 words:

(a) The City Life

Answer:

The City Life

City life is fast-paced and dynamic, offering numerous opportunities for work, education, and recreation. Cities are hubs of economic activities with advanced infrastructure and facilities. However, city life comes with challenges such as pollution, congestion, and a high cost of living. Despite these, the vibrant social and cultural life of a city attracts people from all walks of life, making it a melting pot of diverse cultures.

Quick Tip

When writing articles, maintain a balance between the positives and negatives to give a holistic view.

(b) Need of Technical Education to Provide Employment

Answer:

The Need for Technical Education

Technical education plays a crucial role in providing employment opportunities. It equips individuals with practical skills and knowledge essential for various industries, making them job-ready. In today's competitive world, technical skills are in high demand across sectors like IT, manufacturing, and healthcare. By promoting technical education, we can reduce unemployment and boost economic growth. Governments and institutions should invest in technical training programs to empower the youth and bridge the skill gap.

Quick Tip

Focus on the impact of technical education on individual and national development while writing such essays.

(c) A Journey to a Historical Place

Answer:

A Journey to a Historical Place

Visiting a historical place is a fascinating experience that connects us with the past. I recently visited the Taj Mahal in Agra, a symbol of love and architectural brilliance. The grandeur of its white marble structure and intricate carvings left me spellbound. Walking through its gardens and admiring the serene Yamuna river enhanced the experience. Such journeys not only provide knowledge about history but also inspire a sense of pride in our heritage.

Quick Tip

Describe your experiences vividly to engage the reader and make the description lively.

3. Write a letter to the News Editor of ‘The Times of India’ complaining against the poor supply of water in your locality.

Answer:

To,

The News Editor,

The Times of India,
City Name

, Date

Subject: Complaint about Poor Water Supply in Locality

Respected Sir/Madam,

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I wish to draw the attention of the concerned authorities to the poor water supply in our locality. For the past few weeks, the residents have been facing severe water shortages, making it difficult to meet even basic needs. The situation worsens during peak hours, causing inconvenience to everyone.

I request you to highlight this issue in your newspaper to ensure prompt action by the concerned authorities. Your support in bringing this issue to light will be highly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,
Your Name

Your Address

Quick Tip

Formal letters should be concise, with a clear subject and polite tone addressing the issue effectively.

SECTION C: Grammar

4. Choose the correct option to answer the following questions:

(a) A state where all religions are respected and practiced is called:

Options:

- (i) undemocratic
- (ii) democratic
- (iii) theocracy

(iv) secular

Correct Answer: (iv) secular

Quick Tip

The term "secular" means impartiality towards all religions, promoting equal respect.

(b) The phrase 'fall flat' means:

Options:

- (i) to succeed in one's effort
- (ii) to get what one wants
- (iii) to fail to produce the effect that somebody wants
- (iv) to fail to climb up

Correct Answer: (iii) to fail to produce the effect that somebody wants

Quick Tip

Understanding idioms and phrases is crucial for improving comprehension and expression in English.

(c) The synonym of illustrious is:

Options:

- (i) failure
- (ii) renowned
- (iii) enduring
- (iv) Both (i) and (iii)

Correct Answer: (ii) renowned

Quick Tip

Synonyms enrich your vocabulary and help you choose precise words while writing.

(d) He has been living in Varanasi since three years. Which word is an ‘error’ in the sentence?

Options:

- (i) years
- (ii) has
- (iii) since
- (iv) three

Correct Answer: (iii) since

Quick Tip

The correct preposition here is “for” instead of “since” as it refers to a period of time.

(e) The antonym of ‘ability’ is:

Options:

- (i) inability
- (ii) inability
- (iii) disability
- (iv) incapability

Correct Answer: (ii) inability

Quick Tip

Antonyms expand your understanding of language by offering contrasting meanings for words.

4. (d) Which of the following sentences is/are correct?

Options:

- (A) I know the boy whom you teach.
- (B) I bought a book but which I did not like.
- (C) Each of them got their pay.
- (D) Much books should not be read.

Correct Answer: Only (A)

Solution:

Sentence (A) is grammatically correct. Sentence (B) contains a redundancy with "but which." Sentence (C) should use "his/her" instead of "their." Sentence (D) should use "Many books" instead of "Much books."

Quick Tip

Pay attention to subject-verb agreement and correct usage of determiners for accurate grammar.

4. (e) The antonym of "expedite" is:

Options:

- (i) begin
- (ii) start
- (iii) flow
- (iv) delay

Correct Answer: (iv) delay

Solution:

The antonym of "expedite," which means to speed up a process, is "delay," which means to slow it down.

Quick Tip

Knowing antonyms enhances vocabulary and improves contextual understanding in language.

5. (a) Change any one of the following into indirect speech:

(i) The boys said, "Hurrah! We have won the match."

Answer: The boys exclaimed with joy that they had won the match.

(ii) The doctor said to the patient, "Why did you not come to me earlier?"

Answer: The doctor asked the patient why he/she had not come to him earlier.

Quick Tip

When changing direct speech to indirect speech, adjust the tense and pronouns appropriately.

5. (b) Combine any one of the following as directed:

(i) Mrs. Geeta sold her big house. She got twenty lakhs for it. (Simple sentence)

Answer: Selling her big house, Mrs. Geeta got twenty lakhs.

(ii) Do not be a borrower. Do not be a lender. (Compound sentence)

Answer: Do not be a borrower, and do not be a lender.

Quick Tip

Simple sentences can be created using participial phrases, and compound sentences use conjunctions.

5. (c) Transform any one of the following as directed:

(i) **Kabaddi is one of the most popular games in India. (Positive degree)**

Answer: Very few games in India are as popular as Kabaddi.

(ii) **This is a lame excuse. (Exclamatory sentence)**

Answer: What a lame excuse this is!

Quick Tip

Positive degree transformations often compare using "as...as," and exclamatory sentences start with "What" or "How."

5. (d) Correct any one of the following sentences:

(i) **This man is bent in doing mischiefs.**

Answer: This man is bent on doing mischief.

(ii) **Each and each bring their duty.**

Answer: Each and every one brings their duty.

Quick Tip

Correct grammatical errors by focusing on prepositions, determiners, and subject-verb agreement.

5. (e) Use any one of the following pairs of words in your own sentences to make the

difference in their meanings clear:

(i) rage – raze

Answer:

- His rage at the injustice was evident.
- The old building was razed to the ground.

(ii) sight – cite

Answer:

- The sunset was a beautiful sight to behold.
- The professor asked us to cite reliable sources in our research.

Quick Tip

Homophones have distinct meanings and spellings; using them in sentences helps clarify their usage.

6. Translate the following passage into English:

Answer: One day, a traveler was going from Ajmer. On the way, he remembered an incident from his childhood. He said, “When I was in Ajmer, I called one of my friends. Inviting my friend to my house, I used to discuss my problems with him.”

Quick Tip

While translating, retain the original meaning and ensure the sentence structure follows the rules of the target language.

SECTION D (Literature)

7. Answer the following questions in about 40 words each:

(a) What did the make-up room look like?

Answer: The make-up room was a small and dingy place with mirrors surrounded by large bulbs. The walls were stained with posters, and the overall atmosphere was cramped and untidy, reflecting the chaotic environment of a theatre backstage.

Quick Tip

In descriptive answers, focus on specific details to paint a vivid picture for the reader.

(b) What did Sophie's brother Geoff do when he was out of school?

Answer: Geoff worked as an apprentice mechanic after leaving school. He spent his free time at home in a reserved manner, speaking little, which fascinated Sophie as she wondered about his mysterious life outside.

Quick Tip

When describing characters, include their actions and the impressions they leave on others.

(c) What did M. Hamel write on the blackboard with a piece of chalk?

Answer: M. Hamel wrote "Vive La France!" on the blackboard with a piece of chalk. This phrase reflected his deep love and patriotism for France during his last lesson as the French language teacher.

Quick Tip

Focus on key symbols and their significance in understanding the character's emotions and values.

8. Answer any one of the following questions in about 80 words:

(a) Why did Gandhiji not like Charles Freer Andrews to stay in Champaran?

Answer: Gandhiji believed in self-reliance and wanted the Indian peasants to fight for their rights without depending on an outsider, even someone as noble as Charles Freer Andrews. He felt that seeking help from Andrews, a foreigner, would undermine their struggle for self-respect and independence.

Quick Tip

Gandhiji's philosophy emphasized self-dependence and inner strength during social movements.

(b) Why does Douglas as an adult recount a childhood experience of terror and his conquering of it?

Answer: As an adult, Douglas recounts his childhood experience of nearly drowning to highlight his journey of overcoming fear. It emphasizes that fears can paralyze, but with determination and effort, one can conquer even the most overwhelming challenges. His story inspires readers to face and defeat their fears.

Quick Tip

Personal anecdotes are powerful in conveying universal lessons about perseverance and courage.

9. Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Extract:

When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.
The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.

(a) Why are Aunt Jennifer's hands called terrified?

Answer: Aunt Jennifer's hands are called terrified because they symbolize her fear and submission to the oppressive patriarchal system. Even after her death, the fear of societal expectations and norms is reflected in her hands.

(b) Where did Aunt Jennifer make tigers?

Answer: Aunt Jennifer created the tigers on a panel of embroidery. These tigers represented her suppressed desires for freedom and courage, traits she could not exhibit in her own life.

(c) Name the poem and the poet of the above lines.

Answer: The poem is "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers," and the poet is Adrienne Rich.

Quick Tip

While analyzing poetry, pay attention to symbolism and themes as they reveal the poet's intent.

10. Write the central idea of any one of the following poems:

(a) A Thing of Beauty

Answer: John Keats' poem "A Thing of Beauty" emphasizes the everlasting joy and solace that beautiful things provide. It conveys how beauty in nature and art offers hope and respite amidst life's struggles and sorrows.

(b) My Mother at Sixty-six

Answer: Kamala Das' poem "My Mother at Sixty-six" explores the emotional pain of separation and the inevitability of aging and death. It reflects the poet's love, concern, and helplessness as she confronts her mother's frailty.

(c) A Roadside Stand

Answer: Robert Frost's poem "A Roadside Stand" highlights the struggles of rural people who seek urban prosperity. It critiques the disparity between rural and urban life, focusing on the exploitation and neglect faced by the poor.

Quick Tip

Central ideas summarize the theme and message of the poem concisely while addressing the poet's intent.

11. Answer the following questions in about 40 words each:

(a) How can one buy old money, as described by Charley?

Answer: According to Charley, one can buy old money from coin dealers. Old currency, no longer in circulation, is sought by collectors and can sometimes be used to recreate an atmosphere of the past.

(b) Who was the author Zitkala-Sa placed under while marching into the dining room?

Answer: Zitkala-Sa was placed under the strict watch of a matron while marching into the dining room. This reflects the rigid and oppressive discipline imposed on the Native American children in boarding schools.

Quick Tip

Include specific details from the text to enhance clarity and relevance in your answers.

12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 80 words:

(a) What impression do you form of Dr. Sadao, both as a doctor and a human being, on the basis of the story "The Enemy"?

Answer: Dr. Sadao is portrayed as a skilled and dedicated surgeon who prioritizes his eth-

ical duty to save lives, even if it involves risks. As a human being, he exhibits compassion and integrity, helping the injured American soldier despite the political tension between their countries.

Quick Tip

Character analysis should balance traits and actions to provide a comprehensive understanding.

(b) How did the Maharaja fulfill his vow? What dangers did he face while fulfilling it?

Answer: The Maharaja fulfilled his vow of killing a hundred tigers to avoid his foretold death by hunting them relentlessly. He faced dangers such as attacks by ferocious tigers and the threat of losing his throne due to neglecting his administrative duties. However, his obsession ultimately led to unforeseen consequences.

Quick Tip

Link events and outcomes to showcase the impact of characters' decisions and actions.