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DLIEC/2025-26

Pre Board Examination, Kamrup, 2025-26

Class : X

Subject : English

Time : 3 Hours

Full Marks : 90

(Give answers of Group- A in OMR sheet and answers of Groups- B, C & D in Answer Booklet)

(The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions)

Section - A

Choose the correct answers of the following questions :

1×45=45

1. In "A Letter to God", What made Lencho believe that God would send him money?
A) He had received money from God before.
B) He had absolute faith in God's kindness and help.
C) The postmaster promised to send him money.
D) He saw an advertisement about God's charity.
2. "A plague of locusts would have left more than this" Lencho made this remark as his crops were destroyed by—
A) a landslide
B) a hailstorm
C) a drought
D) a flood
3. Assertion (A) : Lencho called the post office employees a bunch of crooks.
Reason (R) : Lencho asked God not to send him the money by post.

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- A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
C) A is false but R is true.
D) Both A and R are false.
4. "But don't send it to me through the mail because the post office employees are a bunch of crooks"—
In this sentence from "A Letter to God", which literary device is used by the author?
A) Metaphor
B) Simile
C) Irony
D) Pun
5. In "Nelson Mandela : Long Walk to Freedom", what does Mandela mean by "the chains of oppression"?
A) Literal chains used in prisons.
B) The physical and mental restrictions imposed by apartheid.
C) The locks on prison doors.
D) The weapons used by police.
6. Mandela's country is rich in —.
A) forests and lakes
B) minerals and gems
C) agriculture
D) all of the above
7. In "The Midnight Visitor", why was Ausable not surprised to see Max?
A) Because Max had sent him a letter beforehand.
B) Because he expected such visitors frequently.
C) Because he was waiting for Max at the hotel.
D) Because he was waiting for Max at the hotel.

8. "All of us will spend many years, if not generations, recovering from that 'profound' hurt". Choose the meaning of the underlined word.
A) small and mild
B) big and wide
C) deep and strong
D) heavy and easy
9. "Let the door be closed".
Choose the correct active voice form of the above sentence.
A) You closed the door.
B) Closed the door.
C) Door closed please.
D) Close the door.
10. Statement 1: Tea was first drunk in Japan in 2700 B.C. ✗
Statement 2: Tea came to Europe only in the nineteenth century. ✓
A) Statement 1 is true but statement 2 is false.
B) Statement 1 is false but statement 2 is true.
C) Both statement 1 and statement 2 are true.
D) Both statement 1 and statement 2 are false.
11. Match column 'A' with column 'B' and choose the correct answer from the options given below:
- | <u>'A'</u> | <u>'B'</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1) Rajvir | i) Indifferent |
| 2) Buddhist ascetic | ii) Excited |
| 3) Pranjal | iii) Sprouting season |
| 4) Second flush | iv) Bodhidharma |

15. "The legend of tea's discovery has been passed down through generations." This suggests that traditional stories about tea are:

- A) Completely false
- B) Scientifically proven
- C) Not officially documented
- D) Forgotten over time.

16. In Nelson Mandela's speech, the ceremony in Pretoria represented;

- A) Military victory
- B) The start of a democratic and non-racial government
- C) Religious celebration
- D) Sports competition

17. Read the following statements about "Madam Rides the Bus":

Statement 1 : Valli had many friends of her age.

Statement 2 : Valli learned about life through her keen observation.

- A) Statement 1 is true, statement 2 is false.
- B) Statement 1 is false, statement 2 is true.
- C) Both statements are true.
- D) Both statements are false.

18. In the poem "A Tiger in the Zoo", what literary device is used in the the line "His strength is a weapon against evil"?

- A) Simile
- B) Metaphor
- C) Irony
- D) Alliteration

19. "I longed to possess half the talents that you possess". In this line from Nelson Mandela's speech, which word can replace "possess"?
- A) desire
 - B) have
 - C) hold
 - D) own
20. Why does the poet say Amanda wishes to be alone?
- A) Because she loves solitude.
 - B) Because her parents constantly criticize her.
 - C) Because she wants to escape responsibilities.
 - D) Because she is antisocial.
21. With reference to "The Ball Poem" choose the correct interpretation of the line:
"The Ball has rolled away."
- A) The boy accidentally lost his ball.
 - B) The ball symbolizes the loss of childhood innocence.
 - C) The boy was careless and lazy.
 - D) The ball was defective.
22. In "Tale of Custard the Dragon," what is ironic about Custard's character?
- A) He appears fierce but is actually brave.
 - B) He appears cowardly but becomes brave when needed.
 - C) He is a dragon but looks like a chicken.
 - D) He is powerful but lives with humans.

23. Compared to the other parts of India, Coorg receives more of —
- A) snow
 - B) rainfall
 - C) heat
 - D) humidity
24. Valli's enthusiasm was dampened by the sight of —
- A) the big, bright shops
 - B) the poor roads
 - C) the passengers
 - D) the dead cow
25. Griffin was a —
- A) lawless doctor
 - B) lawless scientist
 - C) lawless lawyer
 - D) lawless businessman
26. They called him Mahatma.
Choose the correct passive form of the above sentence.
- A) He was called Mahatma.
 - B) He is called Mahatma.
 - C) He has been called Mahatma.
 - D) He have been called Mahatma.
27. Read the following statements with reference to 'A Question of Trust'.
- Statement 1 : Horace Danby was not a good, honest citizen.
Statement 2 : There were about fifteen thousand pounds worth of jewels in the Grange safe.



- A) Statement 1 is true but statement 2 is false.
✓ B) Statement 1 is false but statement 2 is true.
C) Both the statements are true.
D) Both the statements are false.
28. What caused the villagers to suspect the scientist?
A) The robbery
B) The furniture incident
C) Unexpected availability of cash on him
D) All of the above
29. She hasn't _____ money in her pocket.
A) some
B) any
C) much
D) many
30. Choose the correct suffix to complete the word 'bright' as an adverb —.
A) - er
B) - est
✓ C) - ly
D) - ness
31. I said to her, "Will you go home?"
Select the correct form of indirect speech of the above sentence.
A) I told her if she would go home.
✓ B) I asked her if she would go home.
C) I told her if she will go home.
D) I asked her if she will go home.

32. Humans lie awake in the dark because they —
A) do not feel sleepy
B) feel guilty
✓ C) are worried
D) cry for their sins
33. What do animals bring to the poet?
A) Token of mutual love
B) Understanding
C) Peace
✓ D) Both (a) and (b)
34. The season of joy in Coorg commences from —.
A) September to December
B) September to January
C) March to September
✓ D) September to March
35. Why do the squirrels drop partially eaten fruit in the river?
A) to feed the water animals.
B) to energise the river
C) to pollute the river
✓ D) to enjoy the splash and ripple effect
36. How many times did Horace Danby commit robbery in a year?
A) only once
B) twice
C) thrice
D) every month
37. Identify the correct question tag:
She has finished her homework, —?

- A) hasn't she?
B) has she?
C) didn't she?
D) doesn't she?
38. In "Footprints without feet" why did Griffin become invisible?
A) He was born invisible.
B) He discovered a chemical formula that made him invisible.
C) Someone cast a spell on him.
D) He drank a special potion accidentally.
39. In "Madam Rides the Bus", why did Valli's mother refuse to give her money initially?
A) Because Valli was too young.
B) Because her mother thought bus rides were dangerous.
C) Because there was no money at home.
D) Because Valli had misbehaved.
40. According to the poet Walt Whitman, animals are superior to humans because:
A) they are stronger physically.
B) they live in harmony with nature without greed or violence.
C) they are more intelligent.
D) they can run faster.

Questions 41 and 42 are based on a seen passage. Read the passage carefully and answer :

Her first journey— what careful painstaking, elaborate plans she had had to make for it! She had thriftily saved whatever stray coins came her way; resisting every temptation to buy peppermints, toys, balloons and the like, and finally she had

saved a total of sixty paise. How difficult it had been, particularly that day at the village fair, but she had resolutely stifled a strong desire to ride the merry go-round, even though she had the money. Hint: [Madam Rides the Bus]

41. Choose the synonym of the word stifled.

- A) Removed
B) Allowed
C) Suppressed
D) Released.

42. According to the narrator of the given passage, it was a difficult day on the day of the village fair for the girl because

- A) the girl had no friends to accompany her to the fair.
B) the girl had a strong desire to ride the merry-go-round.
C) the girl could not spend her money.
D) the girl had to resist her temptations to ride the merry-go-round despite having the money to spend.

Questions 43 - 45 are based on an unseen passage. Read carefully and answer :

Walt Whitman was one of America's greatest poets, born in 1819 in Brooklyn, New York. He lived during a transformative period in American history, witnessing the Civil War and the struggle for freedom. His most famous work, "Leaves of Grass," celebrated nature, democracy, and the common man. Whitman believed that poetry should be accessible to everyone, not just the educated elite. His democratic vision and innovative use of free verse revolutionized American poetry. He spent much of his later life writing, revising his work, and advocating for social

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justice. He died in 1892, leaving behind a legacy that continues to influence poets and writers worldwide.

43. Which of the following, best describes Whitman's approach to poetry?
- A) It should be complex and difficult.
 - B) It should be accessible to all people.
 - C) It should focus only on nature.
 - D) It should follow strict rules.
44. Arrange the following events in chronological order.
- (i) Whitman died in 1892.
 - (ii) He was born in Brooklyn.
 - (iii) He witnessed the Civil War.
 - (iv) He published "Leaves of Grass"
- A) (ii), (iii), (iv), (i)
 - B) (ii), (iv), (iii), (i)
 - C) (iii), (ii), (iv), (i)
 - D) (iv), (ii), (iii), (i)
45. What was Whitman's main contribution to American literature?
- A) He created the sonnet form.
 - B) He revolutionized poetry through free verse and democratic themes.
 - C) He founded the first American publishing house.
 - D) He translated European poetry into English.

SECTION : B

46. Answer in brief: 1×3=3
- i) What is a waterhole?

- ii) What is apartheid?
- iii) What was Valli's favourite pastime?

47. Answer the following questions: 2×8=16
- a) Why is Coorg regarded as a piece of heaven?
 - b) Why were two national anthems of South Africa sung on 10th May, 1994?
 - c) Describe the fight between the pirate and the dragon.
 - d) Why does Amanda want to become an orphan?
 - e) What do you mean by Epistemology?
 - f) Why does the poet prefer the world of animals?
 - g) Give a pen-picture about the Dhekiabari Tea Estate.
 - h) Why does the conductor refer to Valli as 'madam'?

SECTION : C

Answer the following : (Q. Nos. 48 and 49)

48. How did Ausable use a clever lie to neutralize Max's threat in "The Midnight Visitor"? Explain the strategy he employed. 2+2=4
- Or
- Horace Danby was a meticulous planner, but still he faltered. Where did he go wrong and why? 4
49. What role did the hack driver play in deceiving the young lawyer? Explain the entire sequence of events. 2+2=4
- Or

Science is a boon but also a curse. How is the negative side of science applicable to Griffin? Give examples from the text. 4

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SECTION : D

50. Write an essay on any one of the following topics: 5
- a) Discipline and Student Life.
 - b) Science in Everyday Life.
 - c) Legendary Figure of Assam: Zubeen Garg.

Or

Write a story expanding the following outline. Also add a suitable title to it. 5

Rajesh finds a mysterious letter in his drawer it contains a treasure map he decides to explore faces several challenges finally discovers something unexpected.

51. Use the following information to write a report on the Annual Day Celebration of your school : 3

Date: Monday, 15th December

Time: 10:00 am onwards.

Place: School Auditorium.

Presided over by: Headmaster/Headmistress/Principal of your school.

Details: Lighting of Lamp by Chief Guest, Singing of National Anthem, Speech by Chief Guest and the Head of the school, Cultural performances by students, Prize distribution, Vote of

Thanks by the School Monitor.

Or

Write a letter to the Editor of a local daily regarding the lack of open spaces and playground in your locality.

52. Translate the following into the language as per your MIL/IL subject. 1×3=3

- a) Kashmir is known as the Heaven on Earth.
- b) Jadu asked me, "Is Raju at home in English?"
- c) South Africa is rich in mineral resources, isn't it?

Or

Write a substance of the following passage : 3

If a man dies young, we generally pity him. But it is not a wise approach to life. We should judge life in terms of deeds not years. The worth of life is measured by the noble deeds that a person does during his life time and not by the number of years he lives. If a man has lived long, but has done nothing for others, his life is not successful.

53. Write correct tense forms of the verbs given in brackets : 1×2=2

- i) We reached the station after the train (leave).
- ii) The Prime Minister of India (arrive) in Assam tomorrow.

54. Rewrite as directed in the brackets: 1×5=5

a) He said to me, "Did you come here yesterday?"
(Change into indirect speech)

b) A song is being sung by the girl. (Change the voice)

c) Rajashree is the most intelligent girl in the class.
(Make it negative without changing the meaning)

d) Where does he live? Do you know it?
(Combine into a single sentence)

e) What a beautiful scene it is! (Turn into an Assertive sentence)

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