

**Delhi Public School, Jammu**  
**Assignment**  
**UNIT TEST-1**  
**(2019-20)**

**Class: XII**  
**SUB: ENGLISH**

**M.M. 50**  
**TIME: 2 HRS**

**General Instructions:**

- 1) *The question paper is divided into three sections.*  
*Section A : Reading 8 marks*  
*Section B : Writing 12 marks*  
*Section C : Literature 30 marks*
- 2) *All questions are compulsory.*
- 3) *You may attempt any section at a time.*
- 4) *All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order*

**Section-A (Reading)**

**Q1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

- a) It is an era of automation. Nearly every year several inventions and innovations swell up the markets making the consumers vow on knowing about each other. One of the commonest factors behind those inventions is our consistent quest for making things easier for ourselves to work upon.
- b) One of the greatest advances in modern technology has been the invention of computers. They are already widely used in industry and in universities. Now there is hardly any sphere of human life where computers have not been pressed into service of man. We are heading fast towards a situation when a computer is as much a part of man's daily life as a telephone or a calculator.
- c) Computers are capable of doing extremely complicated work in all branches of learning. They can solve the most complex mathematical problems or put thousands of unrelated facts in order. These machines can be put to varied users. For instance, they can provide information on the best way to prevent traffic accidents, or they count number of times the word 'and' has been used in the Bible. Because they work accurately and at high speeds, they save research workers' yeah of hard work. This whole process by which machines can be used to work for us has been called 'automation'. In the future, automation may enable human beings far more leisure than they do today. The coming of automation is bound to have important social consequences.
- d) Some years ago an expert on automation, Sir Leon Bagrit, pointed out that it was a mistake to believe that these machines could 'think'. There is no possibility that human beings will be 'controlled by machines'. Though computers are capable of learning from their mistakes and improving on their performance, they need detailed instructions from human beings to be able to operate. They can never, as it were, lead independent lives or 'rule the world' by making decisions of their own.

- e) Sir Leon said that in the future, computers would be developed which would be small enough to carry in the pocket. Ordinary people would then be able to use them to obtain valuable information. Computers could be plugged into a national network and be used like radios. For instance, people going on holiday could be informed about weather conditions; car drivers can be given alternative routes when there are traffic jams. It would also be possible to make tiny translating machines. This will enable people who do not share a common language, to talk to one another without any difficulty or to read foreign publications.
- f) It is impossible to assess the importance of a machine of this sort, for many international misunderstandings are caused simply through our failure to understand one another. Computers are used in ordinary public hospitals. By providing a machine with patient's systems, a doctor is to diagnose the nature of his illness. Similarly, machines can be used to keep a check on a patient's health record and bring it up to date. Doctors can therefore have immediate access to a great many facts which helps them in their work. Bookkeepers and accountants, too, can be relieved of dull clerical work, for the tedious task of compiling and checking list of figures can be done entirely by machines.
- g) Computers are able to tell us the exact age of a man or how many years he is going to live with the help of his blood picture. Computers are the most efficient servants man has ever had and there is no limit to the way they can be used to improve our lives. But they are so much in every sphere of life that they are speedily becoming our masters and we like dumbs are allowing them to play upon our minds. Things have changed so fast after the initial introduction of computers that hardly we sit to think upon concepts, believing computers to be there for that task too. Getting everything on a single click has made our other fingers inactive. In a crunch to now everything we have packed up our minds with utter confusion. We strive so hard to browse answers on several search engines, but do not allow our minds to exert a bit in analyzing the questions ourselves.
- h) The advantage of computers is as vivid as its aftermath. It is an inevitable fact the computers have enhanced technology but jammed common minds. It's strange we are unable to concentrate upon books when computers are on!

**1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices:**

- a) One of the greatest advances in human technology is .....
  - i) the era of automation
  - ii) the invention of computers
  - iii) machines that can think
  - (iv) the need for instructions from human beings
- b) The process by which machines can work for human beings is called .....
  - i) controlling by machines
  - ii) bookkeepers and accountants
  - iii) computers
  - iv) automation
- c) Sir Leon Bragit had predicted that .....
  - i) computers could be carried in one's pocket
  - ii) weather forecasts would be made by computers.
  - iii) people could diagnose their own diseases

- iv) computers can lead independent lives
- d) It is an inevitable fact that computers .....
  - i) can take decisions by themselves
  - ii) make our concepts clear
  - iii) have jammed common minds.
  - iv) allow us to analyse the questions

**1.2 Answer the following questions briefly:**

- a) Why does the writer call computers one of the greatest advances in modern technology?
- b) What is automation?
- c) How does automation help human beings?
- d) How, according to Sir Leon, will computers break the language barrier?

**Section-B (Writing)**

Q2. Your club is going to organize an interclass singing competition. Write a notice in about 50 words inviting names of the students who want to participate in it. Give all necessary details. You are Nakul/Nishtha, secretary, Music club, DPS Agra.

OR

You have cleared your class 12 CBSE examination and so want to sell off the reading material you have with you. Write an advertisement to be placed in the 'For sale' columns of a local daily giving all necessary details of the material you have in not more than 50 words. You are Mohan/Mohini, contact no. 9898987744.

Q3. Within a few months you will be joining college. How do you look at college life? Is it freedom from strict discipline imposed on you by school? A carefree life with no worries of completing assigned home work? Or is it the preparation of brilliant career? Write an article in 150-200 words on what you think of college life? You are Navraj/Navita.

**Section- C (Literature)**

Q4. Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions that follow: (1x4= 4)

And

Looked out at young

Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling

Out of their homes, but after the airport's

Security check, standing a few yards

Away, I looked again at her, wan, pale

As a late winter's moon and felt that old

Familiar ache

- a) How can the trees sprint?
- b) Why did the poet look at her mother again?
- c) What did she observe?
- d) Identify the figure of speech used in these lines?

Q5. Read the following extract and answer the questions below:

On the roof the pigeons cooed very low, and I thought to myself, "will they make them sing in German, even the pigeons?"

- a) Who are 'they' in the above line?
- b) By whom were these lines spoken?
- c) How was Franz as a student? What did he notice on his way to school?
- d) What order came from Berlin?

Q6. Answer the following questions.

- a) How did the Dewan procure the hundredth tiger for the tiger king?
- b) What does the poet want for the children of the slums? How can this change be affected?
- c) What were the poet's feelings as she drove to Kochi airport?
- d) What was the bulletin board news that caused a change in the school?
- e) What do you infer from Sam's letter to Charley?

Q7. How would you describe the behavior of the Maharaja's minions towards him? Do you find them totally sincere towards him or are they driven by fear when they obey him? Do we find a similarity in today's political order?

Q8. The people in the story 'The Last Lesson' suddenly realize how precious their language is to them. What shows you this? Why does this happen?