

ICSE Solved Paper 2022 Semester-1

English Paper-1 (Language)

Class-X

(Maximum Marks : 40)

(Time allowed : One hour)

You will not be allowed to write during the first 10 minutes.

This time is to be spent in reading the Question Paper.

ALL QUESTIONS ARE COMPULSORY

The marks intended for questions are given in brackets []

Select the correct option for each of the following questions.

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

No one had ever seen Bonku Babu get cross. To tell the truth, it was difficult to imagine what he might say or do, if one day he did get angry.

It was not as if there was never any reason for him to lose his temper. For the last twenty-two years, Bonku Babu had taught Geography and Bengali at the Primary School. Every year, a new batch of students replaced the old one, but old or new, the tradition of teasing poor Bonku Babu continued among all the students. Some drew his picture on the blackboard others put glue on his chair or, on the night of Kali Puja, they lit a 'chasing rocket' and set it off to chase him.

Bonku Babu did not get upset by any of this. Only sometimes, he cleared his throat and said, 'Shame on you, boys!'

One of the reasons for maintaining his *calm* was simply that he could not afford to do otherwise. If he did lose his temper and left his job in a fit of pique, he knew how difficult it would then be to find another, at his age. Another reason was that in every class, there were always a few good students, even if the rest of the class was full of pranksters. Teaching his handful of good boys was so rewarding to Bonku Babu, that alone made life as a teacher worth living. At times, he invited those boys to his house, offered them snacks and told them tales of foreign lands and exciting adventures. He told them about life in Africa, the discovery of North Pole, the fish in Brazil that ate human flesh, and about Atlantis, the continent *submerged* under that sea. He was a good storyteller, and he had his audience enthralled.

During the weekend, Bonku Babu went to the lawyer, Sripati Majumdar's house, to spend the evenings with other regulars. On a number of occasions, he had come back thinking, "Enough, never again!" The reason was simply that he could put up with the pranks played in the boys in his school, but when grown, even middle-aged men started making fun of him, it became too much to bear. At these meetings that Sripati Babu hosted in

the evenings, nearly everyone poked fun at Bonku Babu, sometimes bringing his *endurance* to breaking point.

Only the other day less than two months ago they were talking about ghosts. Usually, Bonku Babu kept his mouth shut. That day, for some unknown reason, he opened it and declared that he was not afraid of ghosts. That was all.

—From 'Bonku Babu's Friend by Satyajit Ray

(i) For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided:

1. calm:

- (a) piece of mind (b) attitude mind
(c) peace of mind (d) character

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: He did not lose her calm even in adverse situation.

2. submerged:

- (a) drowning (b) drowned
(c) sublime (d) subsumed

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: Prashant's whole village was submerged in flood water.

3. endurance:

- (a) tolerance (b) toll
(c) bravery (d) bearing

Ans. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The officer tested his endurance to the utmost.

(ii) Answer the following questions by choosing the correct answer from the options given below:

1. Why was it difficult to imagine what Bonku Babu might say or do?

- (a) He was never cross.
(b) He was cross.
(c) No one has ever seen him mark a cross.
(d) There was reason for him to be cross.

Ans. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: No one had ever seen Bonku Babu lose his temper.

2. Which tradition was continued by the school?

- (a) The tradition of drawing on the blackboard.
- (b) The tradition of teasing Bonku Babu.
- (c) The tradition of lighting crackers.
- (d) The tradition of new students replacing old ones.

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: Every year, a new batch of students replaced the old ones. But they too poked fun at Bonku Babu like the old ones.

3. Which sentence tells us that sometimes Bonku Babu did get upset?

- (a) "Bonku Babu did not get upset by any of this."
- (b) "Only sometimes he cleared his throat and said Shame on you boys!"
- (c) "He told them about his life in Africa."
- (d) "He told them, I have been to the North Pole."

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

4. What happened of Kali Puja right?

- (a) The boys lit fireworks.
- (b) The boys put glue on his chair.
- (c) The boys lit a chasing rocket and set it off to chase him.
- (d) Bonku Babu continued teaching.

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The students made fun of Bonku Babu in many ways. Some drew his picture on the blackboard; other put glue on his chair; or, on the night of Kali Puja, they lit a 'chasing rocket' and set it off to chase him.

5. What indication is there that Bonku Babu was conscious of his age?

- (a) He knew it would be difficult to find another job.
- (b) He did not lose his temper.
- (c) There were good students in his class.
- (d) He has memories of his past.

Ans. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: Bonku Babu was well aware of his growing age. He had been serving the Primary School for last twenty-two years and he knew that to find a new job at his age was an impossible task.

6. Apart from the consciousness about his age, what reason did Bonku Babu have for staying on?

- (a) He invited boys home.
- (b) He told them stories.
- (c) He served them snacks.
- (d) There were a few good students.

Ans. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: Bonku Babu found it sensible to focus on a few good students in the batch to make his survival easy and he found teaching his handful of good student very rewarding.

7. How did Bonku Babu spend the weekends?

- (a) He went to resolve some legal matters.
- (b) He put up with the pranks of the boys.
- (c) He kept his mouth shut.
- (d) He went to the lawyer's house to spend the evenings with others.

Ans. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: During the weekend, Bonku Babu went to the lawyer, Sripati Majumdar's house in the evenings.

8. What used to happen there?

- (a) Even there, everyone made fun of him.
- (b) Even there he met middle aged men.
- (c) Even there he told stories.
- (d) Even there he had his audience enthralled.

Ans. Option (a) is correct.

9. What effect did the attitude of the people at these meetings have on Bonku Babu?

- (a) He was happy.
- (b) He was excited.
- (c) He was brought to breaking point.
- (d) He was broke.

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: Bonku Babu could tolerate the pranks played by the young boys. But when the grown ups, specially the middle aged men made fun of him, it was beyond his endurance.

10. What unusual thing happened that day?

- (a) He kept his mouth shut.
- (b) He kept his mind closed
- (c) He spoke up
- (d) He refused to reply

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: Bonku Babu hardly uttered a word in the weekend gatherings. But the other day, when the other regulars were talking about ghosts. To everyone's surprise, Bonku Babu broke the silence and said that he was not afraid of ghosts.

11. What impression do you have of Bonku Babu's character?

- (a) Afraid of his students
- (b) A good Geography teacher
- (c) Patient and Kindly
- (d) Liked gatherings

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: Though teased regularly by the young students and often by the grown ups, Bonku Babu never lost his temper. He had a soft corner for the good students and liked to spend time with them.

(iii) How did Bonku Babu respond to the good students?

1. Firstly:
 - (a) He felt like rewarding them.
 - (b) He received an award.
 - (c) He gave them awards.
 - (d) He felt rewarded.

Ans. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: Even though the class was full pranksters, there were few good students. Bonku Babu found teaching his handful of good students very rewarding.

2. They also:
 (a) Made his teaching alive.
 (b) Lived through his teaching.
 (c) Made life worth living.
 (d) Made him a living.

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: Among all the young boys teasing and making fun of him, teaching few good students made him feel his life as a teacher worth living.

3. So, he:
 (a) invited him to his classes.
 (b) invited them to his classes.
 (c) invited them to his home.
 (d) held his classes at home.

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: Bonku Babu did so because he was kind towards these good students and he also loved to spend time with them.

4. There he:
 (a) wrote books for them.
 (b) served them snacks.
 (c) gave them tuitions.
 (d) told them ghost stories.

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

5. Then:
 (a) They played pranks on him.
 (b) He played pranks on them.
 (c) He told the stories.
 (d) He told them stories.

Ans. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: He used to tell them exciting and adventures tales of foreign lands like about the life in Africa, discovery of North Pole or about Atlantis, the continent submerged under sea.

6. He was a good storyteller and so his audience was:
 (a) Thrilled (b) Enthralled
 (c) Trolled (d) Enrolled

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: Bonku Babu's audience was enthralled because he was a good storyteller.

2. (i) Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the word from the options provided after each. The first one has been done for you.

A farmer (0) lived (live) on the same farm all his life. It (1) (be) a good farm. As the years (2) (pass), the farmer (3) (begin) to tire and he (4) (long) for change for something better.

1. (a) is (b) was
 (c) are (d) were

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: A simple statement of fact of the event that happened in the past. Simple Past Tense is to be used.

2. (a) passed (b) passing
 (c) past (d) pass

Ans. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: A simple statement of fact of the event that happened in the past. Simple past tense is to be used.

3. (a) begins (b) begun
 (c) began (d) beginning

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: A simple statement of fact of the event that happened in the past. Simple past tense is to be used.

4. (a) longs (b) longed
 (c) longing (d) longingly

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: A simple statement of fact of the event that happened in the past. Simple past tense is to be used.

- (ii) Choose the correct option to fill in the blanks:

1. Many species of insects were wiped when the jungle was cleared.

- (a) of (b) out
 (c) away (d) off

Ans. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: Many species of insects were completely destroyed, so 'off' is the correct option.

2. You can obtain the answer adding.

- (a) by (b) to
 (c) on (d) in

Ans. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: By +ing form is used to describe how to do something.

3. On hearing the siren, I pulled and stopped the car.

- (a) in (b) up
 (c) down (d) over

Ans. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: 'Pull over' (of a vehicle) is to come to a stop and turn off the road. So 'over' is the correct option.

4. I intend to visit my parents this weekend.

- (a) during (b) on
 (c) at (d) in

Ans. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: 'I' can visit at any time or day of 'this weekend'. So 'during' is correct option.

(iii) Choose the correct option to join the following sentences without using 'and', 'but' or 'so':

1. He will be late. It is certain.
 - (a) He is certainly late.
 - (b) It is late he will be certain.
 - (c) He is certain to be late.
 - (d) He is certain that he will be late.

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

2. She keeps her money in the purse. This is the purse.
 - (a) She keeps the purse with the money.
 - (b) This is the purse where she keeps her money.
 - (c) This is the money which she keeps in the purse.
 - (d) The money in the purse is here.

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The sentence is connected using the preposition of place.

3. He said something. I did not hear.
 - (a) I hear he said something.
 - (b) I heard something what he said.
 - (c) I did not hear what he said.
 - (d) I did hear what he said.

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The two sentences are joined using a noun clause.

4. He may be blunt. He is at least honest.
 - (a) Although he is blunt, he is at least honest.
 - (b) He may be blunt and honest at least.
 - (c) He is blunt and at least honest.
 - (d) He is at least blunt and honest.

Ans. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: Two contrary statements can be connected using 'Although'.

(iv) Read each sentence with its instructions. Choose the correct answer from the options provided beneath each:

1. The news has been brought to us by him.

(Begin: He...)

 - (a) He brought us the news.
 - (b) He was brought the news to us.
 - (c) He has brought us the news.
 - (d) He bought us the news.

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: It is a simple statement in passive. So the active statement will be written in present tense only.

2. The National Anthem began when I reached school.

(Begin: No sooner...)

- (a) No sooner had the National Anthem began then I reached school.
- (b) No sooner had I reached school than the National Anthem began.
- (c) No sooner does the National Anthem begin than I reached school.
- (d) No sooner had I reached school then the National Anthem began.

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

3. Rajiv is too weak to walk.

(Begin: Rajiv is so...)

- (a) Rajiv is so weak so he cannot walk.
- (b) Rajiv is so weak to walk.
- (c) Rajiv is so weak that he cannot walk.
- (d) Rajiv is so weak that he can walk.

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: An affirmative sentence can be changed into negative form using 'so.....that'.

4. It is dangerous as well as illegal to ride a motorcycle without a helmet.

(Begin: It is not...)

- (a) It is not dangerous but illegal to ride a motorcycle without a helmet.
- (b) It is not only dangerous but also illegal to ride a motorcycle without a helmet.
- (c) It is not only dangerous and also illegal to ride a motorcycle without a helmet.
- (d) It is not only dangerous and illegal to ride a motorcycle without a helmet.

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The correlative conjunction 'Not only.....but also' is to be used.

5. Nima would rather read a book than watch a movie.

(Rewrite using 'Prefer')

- (a) Nima would rather prefer the movie to the book.
- (b) Nima would prefer reading a book to watching a movie.
- (c) Nima would prefer watched a movie to reading a book.
- (d) Nima would prefer the book to watching a movie.

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: 'prefer to' is used to express we like one thing or activity more than another.

6. He said, "Will you listen to such a man?"

(Begin: He asked...)

- (a) He asked them to listen to such a man.
- (b) He asked them would you listen to such a man.

- (c) He asked them whether they would listen to such a man.
- (d) He asked them not to listen to such a man.

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: In reported speech, the verb form in present tense changes to past tense (will-would) and an interrogative sentence into a Statement.

7. If you tell me the truth, I shall not punish you.
(Use: 'unless')
- (a) Unless you tell me the truth, I shall punish you.
 - (b) Unless I punish you, you shall not tell me the truth.
 - (c) Unless I punish you, you shall tell me the truth.
 - (d) Unless you tell me the truth, I shall not punish you.

Ans. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: 'Unless' is used to express negation. When 'unless' is replaced by 'if' in a sentence, negation in the form similar to 'not' is to be used.

8. In spite of repeated warnings Anshul paid no heed.
(Use: 'Despite')
- (a) Despite paying repeated warnings Anshul does not heed.
 - (b) Despite repeated warning Anshul paid no heed.
 - (c) Despite paying no heed Anshul has been repeatedly warned.
 - (d) Despite of repeated warning Anshul paid no heed.

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

