

Vidya Vikas Mandal's
Ramacrisna Madeva Salgaocar Higher Secondary School
FIRST MID-TERM EXAMINATION – JULY 2025

STD XII, ENGLISH LANGUAGE -1

DATE-24/07/25

TIME: 1 hour

MAX MARKS – 20

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. The question paper is divided into 4 sections – A, B, C, D. All questions are compulsory.
2. Write the number of each question clearly.
3. Questions 4,5,6,7 & 8 have four alternatives and only one of them is the correct answer. Choose the right answer and write it against the appropriate question number in your answer book.
4. Questions 9 and 14 have an internal choice.
5. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.
6. Figures to the right indicate marks.

**SECTION A
(READING SKILLS)**

Bats are the only mammals that truly fly. Bats are found throughout the world. A typical bat is the Pipistrelle. It has a wing span of 8 inches and is covered with silky fur, reddish-brown above and paler below. It has a broad head, a blunt muzzle and triangular ears. Pipistrelles are active in summer from dusk to just before sunrise, when they retire to sleep, either alone or many together, in crevices, on roofs, behind pipes or gutters, or in hollow trees. When they sleep they hang their heads downwards from the long curved claws of their hind limbs, and they also use these claws to groom their fur. They feed on flies, gnats and small beetles which they catch in the air. From the end of October to about the end of March, when there are no insects about, they hibernate.

Pipistrelles and all night-flying insects-eating bats having small, weak eyes and they catch their food and avoid flying. The bat squeaks while it flies, but its squeaks are ultrasonic, that is, so high-pitched that the average human ear cannot hear them. The echoes of its squeaks give the bat a kind of sound picture of everything that is round about it. Bats have babies once a year. When the baby bat is born, blind and naked, the mother first puts it in a pouch made by bending her tail forward. Then she places it on her breast, where it hangs clinging to her fur with its claws. It stays there for about two weeks while she flies about. Then, when it is bigger, she hangs it by its feet in some safe place while she flies off to find food. When she returns, she replaces it on her breast. In about three months the young bat begins to fly. (270 words) (Source: engluv.com)

On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer questions 1, 2 & 3 briefly in about 10-15 words each and questions 4 to 8 by choosing the best alternative from those provided:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. When do Pipistrelles typically become active? | 1mk |
| 2. What do Pipistrelles do during the months when there are no insects? | 1mk |
| 3. How long does it take for young bats to begin flying? | 1mk |

Complete the following sentence by choosing the correct alternative from those given below:

4. How do bats catch their food and avoid flying into things? 1mk
- *By using their small, weak eyes
 - *By using echolocation
 - *By using their sense of smell
 - *By using their sense of taste

Give the meaning of the word in the context of the passage from the alternatives given below.

5. muzzle 1mk
- legs
 - nose& mouth
 - tail
 - eyes

6. gnats 1mk
- carrots
 - small insects
 - apples
 - leaves

The alternatives provided are words from the passage. Select the alternative that best matches the meaning given below:

7. small cracks 1mk
- silky fur
 - dusk
 - crevices
 - claws

8. very high frequency 1mk
- eyes
 - ultrasonic
 - flying
 - hibernate

SECTION B (WRITING SKILLS)

Attempt any one of the following: 3mks

9. You are Sheela/Sunil Singh, the Sports Secretary of the Student's Council of Tagore Higher Secondary School, Amritsar, Punjab. Draft a notice for the school notice board about a Workshop on 'Pottery' being organized in your school giving necessary details. (About 30-40 words)

OR

9. You are Indravadhan, General Manager Wellness Fitness Center, Kalyan, Mumbai. You wish to appoint a Fitness Instructor. Draft an advertisement to be published in the classified columns of a local newspaper giving relevant details. Contact No: 9802288888
(About 30-40 words)

SECTION C (GRAMMAR)

Rewrite the following sentence according to the instruction given in the brackets:

10. Akash _____ arrive late because of heavy traffic. (Use the Modal of probability) 1mk
- must
 - may
 - will
 - have to

SECTION D (TEXTUAL)

Read the following stanza carefully and answer the questions that follow in complete sentences of about 10-15 words each:

*The tall girl with her weighed-down
head. The paper-
seeming boy, with rat's eyes.*

11. Name and explain the figure of speech in the last line. 1mk
12. What does weighed-down head indicate? 1mk

Answer the following question in about 25-30 words:

13. How did M. Hamel describe the French Language? 2mks
OR
13. Mention the hazards of working in the glass bangle industry.

Answer any one of the following questions in about 50-60 words:

14. What does the Third Level refer to & what is the significance of it? 4mks
OR
14. What did the Maharaja do to find the required number of tigers to kill?
