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ENGLISH LANGUAGE I- PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION**

**STD XII
DATE-13/12/25**

**TIME- 3 HRS
MAX MARKS: 80**

Instructions:

- i) The question paper is divided into 4 sections – A, B, C, D. All questions are compulsory.
 - ii) Write the number of each question clearly.
 - iii) Questions 4 to 13 and 19 to 24 are MCQ type and have four alternatives of which only one is the correct answer. Choose the right answer and write it against the appropriate question number in your answer book.
 - iv) Questions 15 to 18, 29, 30 and 35, 36, 38 & 39 have an internal choice.
 - v) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.
 - vi) Figures to the right indicate marks.
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SECTION A (READING SKILLS)

Read the following passage:

Wildlife plays a vital role in maintaining ecological balance. Birds, animals, and insects form a part of the food chain, helping nature remain stable. Unfortunately, human activities such as deforestation, pollution, and illegal hunting have threatened wildlife populations across the world. Many species like the Bengal tiger, African elephant, and blue whale are endangered and may disappear forever if not protected.

One of the biggest threats to wildlife is habitat destruction. Forests are cleared for farming, mining, and construction. This leaves animals with no shelter or food. Additionally, rivers and oceans are polluted by industrial waste, affecting marine species. Climate change is another concern, as rising temperatures disturb migration and breeding patterns.

Governments and environmental organisations are working to protect wildlife. They set up national parks and sanctuaries where animals can live safely. Campaigns are conducted to spread awareness about the importance of conservation. Many countries punish poaching as a serious crime.

Every individual can also contribute. Planting trees, reducing plastic use, and supporting eco-friendly practices help protect nature. When people understand that wildlife protection is essential for the future of the planet, they will act more responsibly.

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. What are the main causes of threat to wildlife? (1)
2. Why is habitat destruction dangerous for animals? (1)
3. Name any two endangered species mentioned. (1)

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

4. The biggest threat to wildlife is _____ (1)

- climate change
- habitat destruction
- lack of awareness
- overpopulation of animals

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

5. endangered (1)

- very common
- at risk of disappearing
- easy to protect
- safe and increasing

6. habitat (1)

- an animal's natural home
- a type of food
- a hunting tool
- a protected law

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

7. the act of cutting down forests (1)

- Conservation
- deforestation
- migration
- protection

8. animals that are likely to disappear soon (1)

- ecological balance
- threatened wildlife
- endangered species
- illegal hunting

Read the following passage carefully:

Urban gardening has become a rising trend in many cities across the world. As people live in smaller homes with limited open spaces, they are turning to creative methods of growing plants. Balconies, terraces, windowsills and even small indoor corners are

being used to cultivate vegetables, herbs and flowering plants. Urban gardening not only improves the appearance of living spaces but also contributes to healthier lifestyles.

One of the main advantages of urban gardening is the availability of fresh and chemical-free produce. Many city residents grow tomatoes, spinach, mint and other essentials for daily cooking. This reduces dependence on store-bought vegetables and encourages sustainable living. Additionally, caring for plants helps reduce stress. Studies show that spending just a few minutes a day with plants can improve mood and mental health. Environmental benefits are also significant. Plants help reduce air pollution, increase oxygen levels and support small insects like butterflies and bees. Community gardens, created in shared spaces, bring neighbours together and promote social bonding. Although urban gardening requires regular care, it is an enjoyable hobby that adds beauty, health, and environmental value to urban life.

On the basis of your reading of the above passage, choose a suitable title and choose the para-wise main topics and sub-topics, from the alternatives provided, using the format given below:

Title: _____ 9 _____
 I _____ 10 _____
 II _____ 11 _____
 A _____ 12 _____
 B _____ 13 _____

9. _____ (1)

- > Urban Gardening- A Step towards Sustainable Living
- > Rural Gardening
- > Space Gardening
- > Community Gardens

10. _____ (1)

- > Growing plants in fields
- > Unhealthy lifestyle
- > Creative methods of growing plants
- > Urban Jungle

11. _____ (1)

- > Disadvantages of Urban Gardening
- > Effects of gardening
- > Bad for Heart, blood vessels and lungs
- > Advantages of Urban Gardening

12. _____ (1)

- > Increases store dependence
- > Fresh and chemical free produce
- > Not beneficial for the environment
- > Increases mental stress

13. _____ (1)

- > Increases air pollution

- decreases oxygen
- creates social space
- Encourages sustainable living

14. Write a summary of the above passage in about 70 words using the topic sentences of the paragraphs. (3)

SECTION B (WRITING SKILLS)

Attempt any one of the following: (3)

15. The Career Cell of your school is organising a 'Coding Workshop'. Draft a notice to be displayed on the school notice board giving necessary details. You are Arun/Aruna Naik, Secretary of Presentation Higher Secondary School, Punjab. (30-40 words)

OR

You want to sell your Laptop. Draft an advertisement for the classified columns of a local daily giving necessary details. You are Sidharth/Sidra Patel, Flat No.5, Hill Town Apartments, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh . Email: sp123@gmail.com (30-40 words)

Attempt any one of the following: (5)

16. Recently your school organised an Inter-Higher Secondary Debate Competition. Write a report for your school magazine. You are Aman/Amina Kulkarni, the Cultural Secretary of Rishi Valley Higher Secondary School, Porbandar. (70- 80 words)

OR

You are a Staff Reporter of The Times Of India. Recently you attended the Beach Cleanliness Drive at Mumbai . Write a report to be published in the Newspaper giving all the necessary detail. (70-80 words)

Attempt any one of the following: (8)

17. Cyberbullying is increasing rapidly. Write a letter to the Editor of a Local Daily explaining the problems and safety measures to be taken. Your name is Simran/Sameer Fernandes. Your address is House No. 007, River View Colony, Manipur . (100-150 words)

OR

Write a letter to the Director of Food And Drug Administration regarding the Expired Food Item Sold by a Supermarket, expressing your views on the same and giving solutions. Your name is Jane/Jack Shah. Your address is F - 2, Moonlight Apartments, Mathura . (100-150 words)

18. Write an essay in about 200 – 250 words on any one of the following topics: (10)

- The Impact of Social Media on Today's Youth
- Importance of Environmental Conservation
- The Role of Education in Shaping the Future
- Women Empowerment in Modern India
- Technology: A Boon or a Bane?

SECTION C (GRAMMAR)

Rewrite the sentence by selecting the correct alternative from the options given below each sentence according to the instructions given in the brackets:

19. The committee will announce the results tomorrow. (Select the best alternative from those provided below and rewrite the sentence in the Passive Voice.) (1)

- The results are announced tomorrow by the committee
- The results will be announced tomorrow by the committee.
- The results have been announced tomorrow by the committee.
- The results were announced tomorrow by the committee.

20. Very few players are as talented as Rohan. (Select the best alternative from those provided below and rewrite the sentence using the Positive Degree of Comparison) (1)

- Rohan is more talented than many other players.
- Rohan is one of the most talented players.
- Rohan is the most talented player.
- No other player is as talented as Rohan.

21. If you do not study regularly, you will not pass. (Select the best alternative from those provided below and rewrite the sentence using 'Unless') (1)

- Unless you study regularly, you will pass.
- Unless you study regularly, you will not pass.
- You will pass unless you study regularly.
- Unless you do not study regularly, you will not pass.

22. Students _____ obey the rules of the school. (1)

(Rewrite the sentence by selecting a modal of compulsion from the alternatives provided below.)

- will
- may
- should
- could

23. The teacher said, "Work hard to succeed." (Select the best alternative from those provided below and Change into Indirect Speech) (1)

- The teacher advised them that they should work hard to succeed.
- The teacher told them to work hard to succeed.
- The teacher said them to work hard to succeed.
- The teacher ordered them to work hard to succeed.

24. The train _____ (leave) the station just as the passengers _____ (begin) to board. (To fill in the blanks, select the correct set of alternatives from those provided below and rewrite the sentence.) (1)

- > was leaving, began
- > leaves, begin
- > had left, had begun
- > will leave, will begin

SECTION D - (TEXTUAL)

Read the following stanza carefully and answer the questions that follow by selecting the correct alternative from those given below:

*Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing
A flowery band to bind us to the earth,
Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth
Of noble natures, of the gloomy days...*

25. Identify the figure of speech in the line: "A flowery band to bind us to the earth." (1)

26. What do we create every morning, according to the poet? (1)

*Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,
Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.
*They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.*

27. Why does Aunt Jennifer create tigers that are fearless and bold? (1)

28. Identify and explain the figure of speech in the line: "Bright topaz denizens of a world of green." (1)

Answer the following questions in about 25-30 words each:

29. Why does the poet ask everyone to keep still for a moment? (2)

OR

29. Why are the people running the roadside stand disappointed with the city traffic?

30. What does the poet highlight about the condition of the children in the slum classroom? (2)

OR

30. Why does the poet turn her attention to the young trees and children at the airport?