

UP Board Class 12 English Set 316 (EA) Question Paper 2024 with Solution

Time Allowed :3 hours 15 minutes	Maximum Marks :100	Total questions :12
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General Instructions

1. First 15 minutes are allotted to the candidates for reading the question paper.
2. This question paper is divided into four sections – A, B, C, and D.
3. All questions from all the sections are **compulsory**.
4. Marks are indicated against each question.

SECTION A: Reading

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

Passage:

Why are examinations such a terror? Perhaps because chance plays such a great part in them. The examination paper is like a lottery—uncertain, undependable. The element of uncertainty and surprise is bound to shake the most confident examinee. Sometimes our nervousness is so great that we seem to forget our best-prepared lessons. Before the examination, we feel sure of doing well, but once the question paper is before us, our mind becomes perfectly blank. We fail to recall our most memorised lessons. Some candidates even faint in the examination hall. The question paper springs a complete surprise. None of the 'sure hints', over which we have spent days and nights, appear in the examination. On the contrary, just those very topics, which we left out as unimportant and unexpected, stare us in the face. In Geography, we prepared the map of Europe, but we are required to draw a free-hand map of Asia and the question is compulsory. Surely the fates and their friend, the examiner, have played a cruel joke upon us.

1. (a) Why are examinations considered to be a terror?

Correct Answer: Examinations are considered a terror because they involve uncertainty and surprise, which can shake even the most confident examinee.

Solution: The passage explains that exams are unpredictable, and despite preparation, students often face unexpected questions. This uncertainty creates fear and anxiety among students.

Quick Tip

Focus on the elements of uncertainty and surprise as described in the passage.

1. (b) How does chance play an important role in the examinations?

Correct Answer: Chance plays an important role because students often find unexpected questions instead of those they prepared for.

Solution: The passage states that exams sometimes include topics considered unimportant by students, highlighting the unpredictable nature of exams and the role of chance.

Quick Tip

Discuss how chance impacts student performance by referencing examples from the passage.

1. (c) How do the fates and the examiner play a cruel joke upon the students?

Correct Answer: The examiner and fate play a cruel joke by setting unexpected questions on topics that students left out as unimportant.

Solution: The passage humorously describes how examiners include questions on neglected topics, making students feel tricked by fate and the examiner.

Quick Tip

Refer to the specific example of Geography mentioned in the passage to support your answer.

1. (d) Why do some students get nervous in the examinations?

Correct Answer: Students get nervous due to the unpredictability of exams and their fear of forgetting well-prepared lessons.

Solution: The passage highlights that the element of surprise and uncertainty can lead to extreme nervousness, making students forget even their most memorised lessons.

Quick Tip

Mention the psychological effects of surprise and uncertainty in exams.

(e) (i) Find a word from the passage that means 'empty'.

Correct Answer: Vacant.

Solution:

The passage uses the word 'vacant', which means empty or unoccupied.

Quick Tip

Look for synonyms and contextual hints to identify similar meanings.

(e) (ii) Find out the synonym of 'totally' from the passage.

Correct Answer: Completely.

Solution:

The passage includes the word 'completely', which conveys the same meaning as 'totally', implying full extent.

Quick Tip

Identify words with similar meanings by analyzing context.

(e) (iii) Which word in the above passage is the antonym of 'optional'?

Correct Answer: Compulsory.

Solution:

The word 'compulsory' appears in the passage as the opposite of 'optional', indicating

something that must be done.

Quick Tip

Focus on context to determine antonyms effectively.

SECTION B: Writing

2. Write an article on any one of the following topics in about 100 - 150 words: (a) The pollution spread by the vehicular traffic

Solution:

Vehicular pollution contributes significantly to environmental degradation. It releases harmful gases like carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxides, which lead to air pollution and respiratory diseases. Noise pollution is another issue caused by traffic. To reduce pollution, the government should promote electric vehicles and improve public transportation. Citizens should also opt for carpooling and using bicycles for short distances.

Quick Tip

Mention causes, effects, and solutions in your response.

(b) How can music effect harmony and bonhomie in the society?

Solution:

Music acts as a universal language that unites people from diverse cultures and backgrounds. It fosters understanding, reduces conflicts, and promotes social harmony. Whether through festivals, concerts, or personal listening, music helps individuals connect emotionally and spiritually. The soothing power of music can also reduce stress and anxiety, fostering a peaceful environment in society.

Quick Tip

Include cultural and social perspectives in your article.

(c) How does diet decide whether one is healthy or not?

Solution:

A balanced diet provides essential nutrients required for good health. Consuming fresh fruits, vegetables, proteins, and whole grains boosts immunity and energy levels. Avoiding processed foods, sugary drinks, and excessive fats helps prevent lifestyle diseases such as obesity and diabetes. Proper hydration and mindful eating contribute significantly to overall well-being.

Quick Tip

Discuss the role of nutrients in maintaining health.

3. Write a letter to the bookseller who has sent you by post a book other than the one ordered by you.

Solution: Sample letter provided below.

To,

The Manager,
ABC Bookstore,
(Your City)

Subject: Request for replacement of incorrect book.

Sir/Madam,

I recently ordered a book titled "[Book Name]" but received a different book. Kindly arrange for the correct book to be sent at the earliest. I am returning the incorrect book via courier. Please confirm once the correct book is dispatched. Looking forward to your prompt response.

Yours sincerely,

(Your Name)

Quick Tip

Maintain a formal tone and clear details in the letter.

OR

Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily to register your grievance regarding the local police station's inaction on a robbery.

Solution: Sample letter provided below.

To,

The Editor,

The Daily Times,

(Your City)

Subject: Complaint regarding police inaction on robbery.

Sir/Madam,

I wish to bring to your notice the inefficiency of the local police station in handling a recent robbery that occurred in our neighborhood. Despite repeated complaints by the residents, no concrete action has been taken so far. The lack of prompt response from the authorities has increased fear and insecurity among the residents.

The robbery took place on [date] at [location], and valuable items were stolen from multiple homes. We approached the police multiple times, but no investigation has been initiated yet. The culprits remain at large, and the residents are left feeling vulnerable.

We request you to highlight this issue in your esteemed newspaper to draw the attention of the concerned authorities. We sincerely hope that prompt action will be taken to ensure the safety of the residents.

Yours sincerely,

(Your Name)

(Your Address)

Quick Tip

Clearly describe the issue and request prompt action.

SECTION C: Grammar

4. Choose the correct option to answer the following questions:

(a) Allowance due to a wife from her husband on separation is:

- (i) matrimony
- (ii) patrimony
- (iii) alimony
- (iv) calumny

Correct Answer: (iii) alimony

Solution:

The allowance paid by a husband to his wife upon separation is called alimony, which refers to the financial support one spouse provides to the other after separation or divorce.

Quick Tip

Remember that "matrimony" refers to marriage, while "alimony" refers to financial support given after a marriage ends.

(b) 'At the drop of a hat' means:

- (i) late
- (ii) immediately
- (iii) lazily
- (iv) angrily

Correct Answer: (ii) immediately

Solution:

The phrase "at the drop of a hat" means to do something immediately, without any delay or hesitation. It is used to describe a prompt or sudden action.

Quick Tip

This phrase is often used to indicate instant action or a spontaneous response to a situation.

(c) The synonym of 'allow' is:

- (i) admit
- (ii) permit
- (iii) submit
- (iv) commit

Correct Answer: (ii) permit

Solution:

The synonym of 'allow' is 'permit', as both words refer to giving permission or granting the ability to do something.

Quick Tip

"Allow" and "permit" are often used interchangeably when giving someone permission to do something.

(d) Which of the following sentences is/are correct?

- (A) My father died since last Thursday
- (B) My father has been dead since last Thursday
- (C) He ordered for my dismissal.
- (D) He does not obey to my words.

Correct Answer: (ii) Only (B)

Solution:

Sentence (B) is correct because we use the present perfect tense ('has been dead') to indicate an action that began in the past and continues in the present.

Sentence (A) is incorrect because "died" should be used with a specific point of time rather than 'since'.

Sentence (C) is incorrect because we do not need 'for' after 'ordered'.

Sentence (D) is incorrect because the correct expression is 'obey my words', not 'obey to my words'.

Quick Tip

Remember to use the present perfect tense ('has/have been') when referring to a situation that started in the past and is still true.

(e) The antonym of 'gather' is:

- (i) together
- (ii) other
- (iii) scatter
- (iv) bother

Correct Answer: (iii) scatter

Solution:

The antonym of 'gather' is 'scatter', as 'gather' means to bring together or collect, while 'scatter' means to spread out in various directions.

Quick Tip

When looking for antonyms, consider the opposite action or meaning of the word. 'Gather' refers to bringing things together, and 'scatter' means to separate or disperse.

5.(a) Change any one of the following into indirect speech: i) He said, "We cannot be happy in this life".

Correct Answer: He said that they could not be happy in that life.

Solution:

In indirect speech, pronouns and time expressions are changed accordingly: "we" to "they" and "this" to "that".

Quick Tip

Change pronouns and time expressions correctly in indirect speech.

ii) He said, "I will come here".

Correct Answer: He said that he would come there.

Solution:

”Will” changes to ”would” in indirect speech, and ”here” changes to ”there” according to standard rules.

Quick Tip

Be cautious about tense changes in reported speech.

b) Combine any one of the following as directed: i) He gave them his advice. He helped them liberally. (Into Simple Sentence)

Correct Answer: Giving them his advice, he helped them liberally.

Solution:

The two sentences are combined using a participial phrase to make a simple sentence.

Quick Tip

Use participles to combine sentences into a simpler form.

ii) I am certain of giving you satisfaction. (Into Complex Sentence)

Correct Answer: I am certain that I will give you satisfaction.

Solution:

A complex sentence is formed by introducing a dependent clause.

Quick Tip

Convert noun phrases into dependent clauses to form complex sentences.

c) Transform any one of the following as directed: i) Summon the fire brigade. (Into Passive Voice)

Correct Answer: Let the fire brigade be summoned.

Solution:

In passive voice, the focus is shifted to the object and an auxiliary verb is used.

Quick Tip

Focus on shifting the object to the subject position in passive voice.

ii) None but the brave deserve the fair. (Into Affirmative Sentence)

Correct Answer: Only the brave deserve the fair.

Solution:

The sentence is made affirmative by removing the negative phrase "None but" and replacing it with "Only."

Quick Tip

Eliminate negatives to make the sentence affirmative.

d) Correct any one of the following sentences: i) Knowledge is even more preferable than riches.

Correct Answer: Knowledge is preferable to riches.

Solution:

The correct preposition to use with "preferable" is "to" instead of "than," and "riches" is the correct term instead of "reaches."

Quick Tip

Ensure the correct usage of prepositions with comparative words.

ii) Two years passed since my father has died.

Correct Answer: Two years have passed since my father died.

Solution:

The correct present perfect tense "have passed" should be used, and "has died" changes to

simple past "died."

Quick Tip

Ensure tense agreement in sentences referring to past events.

f) Use any one of the following pairs of words in your own sentences to make the difference in their meanings clear: i) Coarse — Course

Correct Answer:

1. The coarse sandpaper is used to smooth rough surfaces.
2. He is taking an advanced physics course this semester.

Solution:

The word "coarse" refers to something rough in texture, whereas "course" refers to a series of lessons or a path taken.

Quick Tip

Pay attention to the context to distinguish homophones correctly.

ii) Difference — Deference

Correct Answer:

1. There is a big difference between right and wrong.
2. He showed great deference to his elders.

Solution:

"Difference" means a distinction between things, whereas "deference" refers to respect and submission to someone's opinion or wishes.

Quick Tip

Understanding meanings helps avoid confusion in similar-sounding words.

6. Translate the following passage into English:

Correct Answer:

The world of animals is amazing. Where some animals are our friends, some can be dangerous too. Lions, cheetahs, bears, and rhinoceroses are powerful animals. The porcupine also has strong spikes. Apart from these, elephants, cows, buffaloes, sheep, goats, camels, and many other animals are domesticated.

Solution:

The translated passage conveys the meaning of the original text in clear and concise English while maintaining the essence of the message.

Quick Tip

Maintain the meaning and tone while translating passages accurately.

SECTION D: Literature

7. Answer the following questions in about 40 words each: a) What was Franz expected to be prepared with for school on that fateful day when Germany invaded France?

Solution:

The passage highlights how Franz was unprepared for his lesson, symbolizing the neglect of one's own language and culture before realizing its value. Franz was expected to be prepared with a lesson on participles. His teacher, M. Hamel, had announced that he would be questioning the students on this topic, but Franz had not studied and was worried about facing his teacher.

Quick Tip

Always focus on key details mentioned in the story to answer precisely.

OR

What explanations does the author of Lost Spring offer for children not wearing footwear?

Solution:

The author highlights the plight of children living in poverty and their resilience in facing hardships without basic necessities like footwear. The author explains that children do not wear footwear either because of poverty or tradition. Some children are so accustomed to being barefoot that they do not feel the need for shoes, while others simply cannot afford them.

Quick Tip

Identify social issues discussed in the text for better understanding.

b) Why did the ironmaster speak kindly to the peddler and invite him home?

Solution:

The ironmaster's hospitality was driven by his assumption that the peddler was someone he knew and his desire to extend kindness to an old acquaintance. The ironmaster mistook the peddler for an old regimental comrade. Out of compassion and friendship, he invited him home, thinking the peddler was in need of help.

Quick Tip

Consider the motives of characters when answering literature questions.

8. Answer any one of the following in about 80 words: a) What made the peddler finally change his ways?

Solution:

The peddler was moved by Edla's kindness and hospitality, which made him feel valued as a human being. This change in perspective led him to return the stolen money and leave a letter of gratitude. The kindness and trust shown by Edla Willmansson made the peddler finally change his ways. Despite knowing his true identity, Edla treated him with respect and dignity. This compassion touched the peddler's heart, making him realize that the world is

not just a rat trap of greed and deception but also a place of goodness.

Quick Tip

Always highlight the role of key characters in influencing change.

b) How did Gandhi change the plight of the peasants of Champaran?

Solution:

Gandhi's persistent efforts and leadership inspired the peasants to stand up for their rights, leading to lasting social and economic reforms in Champaran. Gandhi helped the peasants of Champaran by fighting for their rights against the oppressive British landlords. He conducted thorough investigations, gathered evidence, and used non-violent resistance to secure justice. Eventually, his efforts led to the abolition of unfair practices, giving the peasants relief and confidence in self-reliance.

Quick Tip

Mention Gandhi's approach and its impact on the community.

9. Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions that follow: *And such*

too is the grandeur of the dooms

We have imagined for the mighty dead;

All lovely tales that we have heard or read;

An endless fountain of immortal drink,

Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.

a) What is the grandeur of the dooms?

Solution:

The phrase "grandeur of the dooms" signifies the respect and admiration for the departed who have left behind a legacy of wisdom and inspiration through stories and heroic deeds. The grandeur of the dooms refers to the noble and inspiring legacy left behind by great people who have passed away. Their achievements and contributions continue to inspire

generations through literature and memories.

Quick Tip

Focus on the symbolic meaning of key phrases in poetry.

b) Why is 'grandeur' associated with the 'mighty dead'?

Solution:

The poet suggests that the great individuals who have passed away are remembered for their accomplishments, which have become a source of motivation and admiration for future generations. The term 'grandeur' is associated with the 'mighty dead' because their lives and deeds have left an everlasting impression on the world. Their contributions are celebrated through stories and literature, making them immortal.

Quick Tip

Understand the metaphorical use of words in poetry.

c) 'A joy of beauty is for a short time forever.' Discuss.

Solution:

The concept of beauty in the poem is not just physical but also includes experiences, values, and inspirational stories that uplift the human spirit for eternity. The poet emphasizes that true beauty is eternal and provides continuous joy. Unlike material things that fade over time, beautiful experiences and memories remain forever, giving lasting happiness and solace.

Quick Tip

Consider both literal and deeper meanings when analyzing poetry.

10. Write the central idea of any one of the following poems:

a) My Mother at Sixty-six

Solution:

The poem "My Mother at Sixty-six" reflects the poet's deep emotional connection with her aging mother and the inevitable fear of separation. It highlights the universal theme of aging, love, and the realization of mortality.

Quick Tip

Focus on the emotional themes while analyzing literature.

b) A Roadside Stand

Solution:

The central idea of the poem revolves around the struggles of rural people trying to earn a livelihood through their roadside stand. The poet portrays their hardships and the indifference of city dwellers toward them.

Quick Tip

Consider socio-economic themes while discussing the central idea.

c) Aunt Jennifer's Tigers

Solution:

The poem "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers" explores the theme of female oppression and the desire for freedom. The tigers symbolize strength and fearlessness, which Aunt Jennifer lacks in her own life due to societal constraints.

Quick Tip

Analyze the use of symbolism to understand the deeper meaning of the poem.

11. Answer the following questions in about 40 words each: a) What did the chief astrologer say to the Tiger King?

Solution:

The astrologer warned the Tiger King that he was destined to die because of a tiger.

Although the king killed many tigers, he ultimately met his end due to a wooden tiger's sliver. The chief astrologer predicted that the Tiger King would be killed by a tiger. Despite his efforts to avoid fate, the prophecy eventually came true in an ironic way.

Quick Tip

Focus on the irony and prophecy's fulfillment when answering.

OR

How do geological phenomena help us to know about the history of mankind?

Solution:

By studying geological formations and fossils, scientists can reconstruct ancient environments and trace human evolution over millions of years. Geological phenomena provide valuable insights into the Earth's past by revealing layers of rock, fossils, and climatic changes that help us understand the evolution of mankind.

Quick Tip

Mention examples of fossils and rock formations in your answer.

b) Who is the enemy of whom in The Enemy? Why?

Solution:

The American soldier is the enemy of Japan during World War II, but Dr. Sadao overcomes his nationalistic feelings and provides medical care, highlighting the conflict between duty and humanity. In "The Enemy," the wounded American soldier is considered an enemy of Japan during wartime. However, Dr. Sadao treats him as a human being despite the political conflict.

Quick Tip

Emphasize the moral dilemma faced by Dr. Sadao in your answer.

OR

What is it that draws Derry towards Mr. Lamb in spite of himself?

Solution:

Despite his initial hesitation, Derry finds comfort in Mr. Lamb's positive outlook, which inspires him to overcome his insecurities about his physical appearance. Derry is drawn towards Mr. Lamb due to his optimistic and encouraging attitude. Mr. Lamb's words help Derry gain self-confidence and see life from a new perspective.

Quick Tip

Discuss the role of positive mentorship in shaping self-esteem.

12. Answer any one of the following in about 80 words:

a) How does Maharaja prepare himself for the killing of the hundredth tiger?

Solution:

To fulfill the prophecy, the Maharaja ensured no one else could hunt tigers in his kingdom. He even organized elaborate hunts and employed numerous staff to aid him. However, the last tiger he believed he killed was actually shot by his men, and fate took its revenge. The Maharaja took great precautions in preparing to kill the hundredth tiger. He banned tiger hunting for others, married for a tiger-rich kingdom, and spent years hunting tigers himself. Despite all efforts, fate played a trick on him.

Quick Tip

Focus on the Maharaja's actions and irony of fate.

b) Describe in brief Zitkala's experiences while getting a haircut.

Solution:

Zitkala's experience of having her hair forcibly cut reflected the cultural oppression faced by Native Americans. She felt like a defeated warrior, as cutting hair symbolized shame in her culture. Zitkala was deeply distressed while getting a haircut at the boarding school. For

Native Americans, long hair symbolized dignity and pride. She resisted but was forcibly held down and her hair was cut, making her feel humiliated and powerless.

Quick Tip

Include cultural significance while explaining Zitkala's emotions.
