Time : 2.00 Hours Maximum Marks : 80

ENGLISH PAPER-1 (LANGUAGE) ICSE Sample Question Papers

[20]

Self Assessment Paper

- (i) Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.
- (ii) You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.
- (iii) This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.
- (iv) The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Attempt **all five** questions.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

You are advised to spend not more than 30 minutes in answering Question 1.

and 20 minutes in answering Question 2.

Q. 1. Write a composition (300 - 350 words) on any one of the following :

- (a) You had been waiting outside the examination hall. Describe what you saw and the sounds you heard when you arrived at the place. What were your feelings? Describe how the scene changed once you entered the hall and the examination started.
- (b) Write a composition on "Me and my big mouth!"
- (c) Write an original short story that begins with the words "The day started off well enough, whoever thought it would ..."
- (d) All girls' or all boys' schools provide a better learning environment than co-educational school. Express your views for or against the statement.
- (e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



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Q. 2. Select any one of the following :

(a) You are to be awarded a special prize at the Annual Prize Day Ceremony of your school. Write a letter to a relative giving them the news. Be sure to include details of the prize that you are to receive and tell them why you have been chosen for this honour.

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The traffic outside your school is very heavy and chaotic. Write a letter to the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic) pointing out the danger of such

heavy and chaotic traffic outside a school zone. Suggest possible solutions for the problem.

- Q. 3. (a) You are Physical Education teacher of your school. You want to select the school hockey team for the Inter School Hockey Tournament. Write a notice inviting those who are interested in selection, to give their names. [5]
 - (b) Write an e-mail based on the content given in question Q3 (a) to the esteemed hockey player inviting him to do the selection. [5]

Q. 4. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow : [20]

Lying in bed, Swami realized with a shudder that it was Monday morning. It looked as though only a moment ago, it had been the last period on Friday and already Monday was here. He hoped that an earthquake would reduce the school building to dust, but that good building, Albert Mission School had withstood similar prayers for over a hundred years now. At nine o'dock, Swaminathan wailed, "I have a headache." His mother said, "Why don't you go to school in a bullock cart?"

"So that I may be completely dead at the other end? Have you any idea what it means to be jolted in a cart?"

"Have you any important lesson today?"

"Important! Bah! That geography teacher has been teaching the same lesson for over a year now. And we have arithmetic, which means for a whole period we are going to be beaten by the teacher. Important lessons!"

And Mother generously suggested that Swami might stay at home.

At 9:30, when he ought to have been lining up in the school prayer hall, Swami was lying on the bench in Mother's room. Father asked him, "Have you no school today?"

"Headache," Swami replied.

"Nonsense! Dress up and go."

"Headache."

"Loaf about less on Sundays and you will be without a headache on Monday."

Swami knew how stubborn his father could be and changed his tactics, "I can't go so late to class."

"I agree, but you'll have to; it is your own fault. You should have asked me before deciding to stay away."

"What will the teacher think if I go so late?"

"Tell him you had a headache and so are late."

"He will beat me if I say so."

"Will he? Let's see. What is his name?"

"Mr. Samuel."

"Does he beat the boys?"

"He is very violent, especially with boys who come late. Some days ago, a boy was made to stay on his knees for the whole period in the corner of the class, because he came late, and that after getting six cuts from the cane and having his ears twisted. I wouldn't like to go late to Mr. Samuel's class."

"If he is so violent, why not tell your headmaster about it?"

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Sample Question Papers

"They say that even the headmaster is afraid of him. He is such a violent man."

And then Swami gave a lurid account of Samuel's violence; how when he started caning, he would not stop till he saw blood on the boy's hand, which he made the boy press to his forehead like a vermilion marking. Swami hoped that his father would be made to see that he couldn't go to his class late. But father's behaviour took an unexpected turn. He became excited. "What do these people mean by beating our children? They must be driven out of service. I will see ..."

The result was, he proposed to send Swami late to his class as a challenge. He was also going to send a letter with Swami to the headmaster. No amount of protest from Swami was of any avail: Swami had to go to school.

By the time he was ready, father had composed a long letter to the headmaster, put it in an envelope and sealed it.

"What have you written, Father?" Swaminathan asked apprehensively.

"Nothing for you. Give it to your headmaster and go to your class."

Swami's father did not know the truth, that actually Mr. Samuel was a very kind and gentle man.

- (a) Give the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage. One word answers or short phrases will be accepted.
 - (i) jolted (line 6) (ii) stubborn (line 19) (iii) avail (line 39) [3]
- (b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words :
 - (i) What did Swami wish for on a Monday morning? Why was his wish unlikely to be answered? [2]
 - (ii) Which sentence tells us that Swami's father was completely unsympathetic to his son's headache? [2]
 - (iii) In what way was Swami's mother's response different from his father's?
 - (iv) Why did Swami give a colorful account of Mr. Samuel to his father?
 - (v) In what way did father's behaviour take an unexpected turn?
 - (vi) Who, according to Swami, was a violent man?
- (c) In not more than 50 words describe how Swami tries to prove that Mr. Samuel is a violent man. [7]
- Q. 5. (a) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order, the word or phrase appropriate in the blank space.

Example:

Answer: (0) beginning

Alice was (0) (begin) to get very tired of (1) (sit) by her sister on the bank and of having nothing to do: once or twice she (2) (peep) into the book her sister was reading, but it (3) (have) no pictures or conversations in it, "Without pictures or conversations?"

Alice wondered whether the pleasure of (5) (make) a daisy-chain would be worth the trouble of getting up and picking the daisies, when suddenly a white rabbit with pink eyes (6) (run) close by her. Alice did not think this was very remarkable, until the rabbit actually (7) (take) a watch out of its waistcoat-pocket, and (8) (look) at it, and then hurried on.

(b) Fill in the blanks with an appropriate word :

- (i) The teacher spoke for Raju when he was wrongly accused of stealing money.
- (ii) We can visit her in the hostel 3 pm and 5 pm on Saturdays.
- (iii) The Sinhas have lived in New Delhi 1943.
- (iv) Little children are often afraid the dark.
- (v) Sneha has applieda scholarship.

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[4]

[2]

[2]

[2]

[2]

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- (vi) It took Ahmed many months to get the loss of his friend.
- (vii) She turned the generous offer made by the manager.
- (viii) We were asked to take our footwear as we were entering a place of worship.
- (c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using *and*, *but* or *so* : [4]
 - (i) He has learnt cycling. He has yet to learn to swim.
 - (ii) The child helped her mother to prepare breakfast. She washed the tomatoes.
 - (iii) They bought a new car. They can travel long distance.
 - (iv) Sunita opened her purse. She found the money missing.
- (d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. [8]
 - (i) We had not even walked one kilometre when they stopped us. (Begin : Hardly)
 - (ii) The memory is so vivid that I will never forget it. (Use 'too' in place of 'so')
 - (iii) That need not happen. (Rewrite using does)
 - (iv) Food and sleep were all we cared about.

(Begin : All)

- (v) We sat with our accuser, face to face.(Begin : There)
- (vi) Herbert consulted his parents before accepting the job offer.(Begin : Herbert did not)
- (vii) Put your tools away, the children may fall over them. (Use : lest)
- (viii) It was the last time he saw his wife. (Begin : Never)

