ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY, DEHRADUN
2ND PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2024-25

SUBJECT: ENGLISH PAPER I **CLASS: XII** **M.M.: 80 TIME: 3 HOURS**

NAME OF THE STUDENT.....CLASS/SECTION.....ROLL NO.....

Attempt all four questions. The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [ ]. (You are advised to spend not more than 45 minutes on Question 1, 55 minutes on Question 2, 30 minutes on Question 3 and 50 minutes on Question 4.) (You should begin each answer on a fresh page.)

Question 1. **[20]**

Write a composition (in approximately 400-450 words) on any **one** of the following subjects:

(You are reminded that you will be rewarded for orderly and coherent presentation of material, use of appropriate style and general accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar.)

(i) You are stuck in a situation where you have to either go abroad for your further studies or pursue education in your hometown. Describe the societal, familial and personal expectations that weighed heavily on you and how you navigated those pressures.

(ii) Narrate an emotional experience of losing a tree that held a special significance in your life. Share the memories attached to that tree and the impact it had when it was felled.

(iii) 'The money spent by our Government on international sports should be rather spent on enhancing the life of the citizens'. Argue either **FOR** or **AGAINST** the given statement.

(iv) Survival

(v) Our character is what we do when we think no one is looking. Present your reflections on this statement.

(vi) Write an original short story that ends with the following words:

'.....Finally she realized that justice had been served but the scars would remain.'

Question 2.

(a) You have been asked to deliver a speech on the occasion of " World Food Day", Write down the speech (in approximately 300 words) using the points given below: **[15]**

Celebrated on October 16– global campaign to highlight the reasons for inadequate nourishment – addressing hunger as an important factor and raising awareness about food shortage–need to boost agricultural productivity and reduce food wastage–opt for healthier diets and access to nutritious food–collective efforts required to tackle malnutrition.
(You may also include other relevant details)

(b) As the Head Boy / Head Girl of your school, you have been given the task of organizing a seminar on 'Gender Equality' in your school. Write a proposal in not more than 150 words, stating the measures required to successfully organize this seminar. **[10]**

Question 3.

Answer subparts **(i)**, **(ii)** and **(iii)**

(i) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each of them in brackets. **[5]**

(a) Many ambitious men see politics as a stepping stone to power.
(Begin: Politics is .....)

(b) No sooner had Caroline entered the hall than her fans mobbed her.
(Begin: Barely.....)

(c) "Why did you not participate in the function last week?" said my teacher.
(Begin: My teacher.....)

THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE PRINTED SIDES

(d) Though they are poor, they deserve to be respected by all.
(Begin: However .....)

(e) My sister was so tired that she could not join her office after the Diwali break.
(Use: too)

(ii) In the following sentences, replace the **INCORRECT** underlined word to make the sentence meaningful and grammatically correct. Do not copy the sentences. **[5]**

(a) The sight of the old building brought ahead many memories from my childhood.
(b) The new advertising campaign is expected to bring out a lot of new customers.
(c) Eliza was planning to leave the party but was gradually won back by the friendly behaviour of her friends.
(d) It won't be easy but we will definitely win on in the end.
(e) I realized I had walked over a trap but it was too late.
(f) Jack had continuously walked at two hours before he realized he was lost.
(g) The injured worker was given a six week lay in by the manager.
(h) For almost fifteen days, John has been laid down with a bad cold.
(i) After the graduation ceremony, Sohaib parted off his friends in high spirits.
(j) Although he was very old, Mr. Smith was reluctant to part for his money.

(iii) Fill in the blanks in the passage given below with the appropriate form of the verb given in brackets. Do not rewrite the sentence but write the verb in the correct order. **[5]**

I _____(1) (realise) that I _____ (2) (know) one of the two men by sight, and I ____(3) (spend) a few seconds thinking why he _____(4) (seek) me out on a Sunday afternoon. During this pause, three small boys _____(5) (walk) up the passage from the house behind me, _____(6) (thread) a way around me and the two men outside, and silently _____(7) (climb) like cats up onto a tree in the middle of the lawn outside. There, the three figures_____(8) (rest), _____(9) (become) immobile ,_____(10) (lie) on their stomachs, deep in a secret game.

Question 4.

Read the passage given below and answer the questions (a), (b) and (c) that follow:

On September 6, 1997, London was stilled as over a million mourners of Diana, the Princess of Wales, kept vigil along the route to Westminster Abbey. The festival of mourning culminated in her extraordinary funeral which gave way to publicly expressed catharsis. The people's Princess had unlocked hearts, recorded values, presided at the triumph of emotional intelligence over cold intellect and of compassion over tradition. This year will see the resumption of inquiry to examine her fatal car crash: a tragic accident.

Ten years on, Diana is still the world's most famous Briton, but many of her fellow- country men don't seem sure if she did much more than ***wear*** designer dresses and shift a lot of tabloids. Diana shook up the British monarchy and sped up its modernisation, Although she was celebrated in the media for her beauty, grace and charm, it was her unconventional approach to charity that endeared her to the people. She raised awareness of eating disorders and advocated for ways to help the children and the elderly especially those who were affected by cancer and mental illness. These are pretty hefty achievements for a woman of little education. From a shy bride to a passionate campaigner, Diana, Princess of Wales didn't just transform herself- she changed her country and after a decade of her death, she remains an inescapable presence in British life.

The Queen's subjects wept on the streets covered with dying flowers that carpeted the sidewalks. The people who loved their Princess were now going to pay their tribute to Diana. While the Queen and her immediate family kept their grief to themselves, there was a whiff of revolution beyond the palace gates. The monarchy realised that it stands or falls on public opinion.

With limited options, Diana, in her charitable work, set a standard that is hard to equal. She helped tear down the prevailing prejudices and fears about AIDS, clasped the hands of the sufferers and embraced leprosy patients in Indonesia. She raised awareness about the dangers of landmines and promoted their removal through The International Red Cross. Tony Blair, the former Prime Minister of UK, remarked that Diana taught us a new way to be British.

Diana had been brought up in an old-fashioned environment and she was not prepared for the palace life. By the time she married, it was already a place more multi-coloured than it had ever been. The new princess could not fit in. Her rebellion, inchoate and self-destructive at first, reverberated far beyond the palace walls.

Unlike her ***remote*** royal in-laws, Diana literally touched the people she met. She always championed the cause of the downtrodden because she was attracted to their suffering. After her separation and divorce, she had given up her patronage of most of the charities she once represented. She also experimented with different therapies that encouraged her to unburden, may be privately. She became a celebrity. She was one of the people and reassured them that anyone could be a star. Diana is ***still*** alive and a legend. By dying young, she became an ensured immortality. Better dead than wrinkled.

(i) (a) Find a word from the passage that will exactly replace the underlined word or words in the following sentences. [3]

(1) His preconceived notions of the party might have an adverse effect on the voters.
(2) The sound of the siren resonated across the harbour.
(3) The charity organization provides assistance to families in need during the holiday season.

(b) For each of the words given below, choose the correct sentence that uses the same word unchanged in spelling, but with a different meaning from that which it carries in the passage. [3]

(1) remote

(A) He seemed remote and uninterested during the conversation.
(B) Despite being in the same room, Steve felt emotionally remote from everyone else.
(C) There is a remote chance of rain tomorrow.
(D) Her remote demeanour made it difficult for others to connect with her.

(2) wear

(A) The constant traffic will eventually wear the surface of the road.
(B) He tends to wear his shoes until they have holes in them.
(C) She always wears a smile no matter what the circumstances are.
(D) She decided to wear her favourite dress to the party.

(3) still

(A) She is still working on the project, as the deadline of submission is tomorrow.
(B) He is still thinking about the decision he made last week.
(C) The lake was still and reflected the surrounding mountains beautifully.
(D) After all these years, he is still the best player in the team.

(ii) Answer the following questions as briefly as possible in your own words.

(a) How can you conclude that Princess Diana was loved immensely by the people? [2]
(b) Why do you think Diana rebelled? [2]
(c) What is meant by the line-'By dying young, she became an ensured immortality'? [2]

(iii) Summarise how Diana became a celebrity and is still alive in the hearts of the people .You are required to write the summary in the form of a connected passage in 100 words. Failure to keep within the word limit will be penalized. [8]