

**ENGLISH CORE**  
**CODE NO.: 301**  
**Class-XII**  
**SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER II**

**Section A: Reading**

**Max. Marks : 20**

**Read the passage given below and then answer the questions which follow:** 12 marks

- 1 To make our life a meaningful one, we need to mind our thoughts, for our thoughts are the foundation, the inspiration, and the motivating power of our deeds. We create our entire world by the way we think. Thoughts are the causes and the conditions are the effects.
- 2 Our circumstances and conditions are not dictated by the world outside; it is the world inside us that creates the outside. Self-awareness comes from the mind, which means soul. Mind is the sum total of the states of consciousness grouped under thought, will and feeling. Besides self-consciousness we have the power to choose and think. Krishna says: *"no man resteth a moment inactive"*. Even when inactive on the bodily plane, we are all the time acting on the thought plane. Therefore if we observe ourselves, we can easily mould our thoughts. If our thoughts are pure and noble, naturally actions follow the same. If our thoughts are filled with jealousy, hatred and greed, our actions will be the same.
- 3 Karmically, however, thought or intent is more responsible and dynamic than an act. One may perform a charitable act, but if he does not think charitably and is doing the act just for the sake of gain and glory, it is his thoughts that will determine the result. Theosophy teaches us that every thought, no matter how fleeting, leaves a seed in the mind of the thinker. These small seeds together go to make up a large thought seed and determine one's general character. Our thoughts affect the whole body. Each thought once generated and sent out becomes independent of the brain and mind and will live upon its own energy depending upon its intensity.
- 4 Trying to keep a thought from our mind can produce the very state we are trying to avoid. We can alter our environment to create the mood. When, for instance, we are depressed, if we sit by ourselves trying to think cheerful thoughts, we often do not succeed. But if we mix with people who are cheerful we can bring about a change in our mood and thoughts. Every thought we think, every act we perform, creates in us an impression, like everything else, is subject to cyclic law and becomes repetitive in our mind. So, we alone have the choice to create our thoughts and develop the kind of impressions that make our action more positive.

- 5 Let us choose the thought seeds of right ideas, noble and courageous aspirations that will be received by minds of the same nature. Right introspection will be required of us to determine what we really desire to effect. Everything in the universe is inter-related and inter-dependent, that we live in one another and by accepting the grand principle of universal brotherhood we shall be in a position to appreciate what a heavy responsibility is ever ours to think right. Let us reflect and send loving and helpful thoughts and lighten the load of the world's suffering.

495 words

**1.1 Answer the following questions:**

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| a. How can we make our life meaningful?                               | 1 mark  |
| b. Why does Krishna say, " <i>No man resteth a moment inactive?</i> " | 2 marks |
| c. How do our thoughts affect the whole body?                         | 2 marks |
| d. How can we change our mood when we are depressed?                  | 2 marks |
| e. How can we bring about the desired effect?                         | 2 marks |

**1.2 Find the words from the passage which mean the same as:**

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| a. Full of activity (Para 3)                             | 3 marks  |
| b. Happening in cycles (Para 4)                          | (Para 3) |
| c. to look into one's own thoughts and feelings (Para 5) |          |

**Question 2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: 8 Marks**

The small village of Somnathpur contains an extraordinary temple, built around 1268 A.D. by the Hoyasalas of Karnataka-one of the most prolific temple-builders. Belur and Halebid are among their-better-known works. While these suffered during the invasions of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the Somnathpur temple stands more or less intact in near-original condition.

This small temple captivates with the beauty and vitality of its detailed sculpture, covering almost every inch of the walls, pillars, and even ceilings. It has three shikharas and stands on a star-shaped, raised platform with 24 edges. The outer walls have a profusion of detailed carvings: the entire surface run over by carved plaques of stone. There were vertical panels covered by exquisite figures of gods and goddesses. with many incarnations being depicted. There were nymphs too, some carrying an ear of maize (a symbol of plenty and prosperity). The elaborate ornamentation, very characteristic of Hoyasala sculptures, was a remarkable feature. On closer look - and it is worth it - the series of friezes on the outer walls revealed intricately carved caparisoned elephants, charging horsemen, stylized flowers, warriors, musicians, crocodiles, and swans.

The temple was actually commissioned by Soma Dandanayaka or Somnath (he named the village after himself), the minister of the Hoyasala king, Narasimha the Third. The temple was built to house three versions of Krishna. The inner center of the temple was the kalyana mandapa. Leading from here were three corridors, each ending in a shrine, one for each kind of Krishna-Venugopala, Janardana and Prasanna Keshava, though only two remain in their original form. In the darkness of the sanctum sanctorum, I tried to discern the different images. The temple's sculptural perfection is amazing and it includes the doors of the temple and the three elegantly carved towers.

**324 words**

- 2.1 Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations, with suitable titles **5 marks**
- 2.2 Make a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words. **3 marks**

**Section B: Advanced Writing Skills**

**Max. Marks: 35**

- Q.3. You are the President of your school theatre club. Your club is organizing a play *The Miser* to help the victims of earthquake. Design a poster informing the students about this play. Invent necessary details. **5 marks**

Or

The students' council of your school has organized an excursion to Goa for students of class XII during the Autumn Break. As President of the council, write a notice in not more than fifty words informing the students about this excursion. Sign yourself as Ravi / Raveena.

- Q.4. You are Rahul, the Headboy of Creative Public School, Delhi. Recently your school hosted the Regional Level CBSE Science Exhibition. Write a report of this event for your school newsletter in about 125 words. **10 marks**

Or

The International Book Fair was inaugurated by the Chairman of Children's Book Trust, Dr. Kumar. The theme this year was *Illustrated Works of Children*. You are Akshay/Akanksha a class XII student of A.K. International School Mathura. You visited the exhibition and were impressed with the range of books on display. Write a factual description in about 125 words.

- Q.5. You are Naresh/Neetu. Recently, you came across a newspaper report on the burning of a young woman as her parents could not meet the dowry demands. You feel that even after 60 years of independence we have not really progressed as a nation. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper expressing your views and also giving suggestions to improve the status of women in Indian Society. **10 marks**

OR

You are Satish/Sonali, the student prefect incharge of the school library. You have been asked to place an order for children's story books (Ages 10-13 yrs). Write a letter to M.S. Book Depot Ramnagar, Bikaner placing an order for the books. Invent the necessary details.

- Q.6. India is a country with diverse cultures, traditions, religious and political beliefs. **10 marks**  
To keep such a country together, to bind the people and take the nation ahead on the path of progress, democracy is the most suitable form of government. Write an article in about 150-200 words. You are Akshay/Asha a class XII student at Rosary Senior Secondary School Lucknow.

OR

You are Amit/Amita a student of class XII at K.N. Senior Secondary School Nagpur. You recently visited a hill station alongwith your parents. It was an exhilarating, adventurous and joyful experience. Write an article for the school magazine sharing your experience in 150-200 words.  
And Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool

- Q7. a) *Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.  
The massive weight of uncle's wedding band  
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.*
- (a) Why were Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering? 1 mark  
(b) What is suggested by the image *the massive weight of uncle's wedding band*? 1 mark  
(c) Why did Aunt Jennifer create animals which were so different from her own character? 2 marks

OR

*And yet, for these  
Children, these windows, not this map, their world,  
Where all their future's painted with a fog,  
A narrow street sealed in with a lead sky  
Far far from rivers, capes and stars of words.*

- (a) What does the map on the wall signify? 1  
(b) Who are *these* children? What is their world like? 2  
(c) What kind of future does the poet foresee for them? 1

**(b) Answer any three of the following questions in about 30-40 words. 6 marks**

- (a) What does Stephen Spender want for the children of the slums?  
How can their lives change?  
(b) How will counting up to twelve and keeping still help us?  
(c) What is the childish longing that the poet refers to? Why is it 'vain' ?  
(d) Why is *grandeur* associated with the mighty dead?

**Q.8. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words. 10 marks**

- (a) Why was Franz afraid when he was going to school that day?
- (b) What is the *misadventure* that William Douglas speaks about?
- (c) Why do most celebrity writers despise being interviewed?
- (d) Why was Sophie jealous of her brother's silence?
- (e) Why did Rajkumar Shukla go to meet Gandhi?

**Q.9. Answer any one of the following in about 125-150 words. 10 marks**

The life of bangle makers of Firozabad was full of obstacles which forced them to lead a life of poverty and deprivation. Discuss with reference to *Lost Spring*.

Or

Asokamitran has used humor and satire effectively in *Poets and Pancakes*. Discuss.

**Q.10. Answer any one of the following in about 125-150 words. 7 marks**

Individuals who belong to enemy countries tend to hate each other even if they do not know each other personally. At times it is seen that some of them rise above such prejudices. What makes a human being do so?

Or

An adult's perspective is different from that of a child. Why? Answer with reference to the story *Should Wizard hit his Mommy*?

**Q.11. Answer the following briefly (30-40 words) 8 marks**

- (1) Why does Charley say that grand station is growing like a tree in the story *The Third level*?
- (2) Why does Derry tell Mr. Lamb that he is afraid of seeing himself in the mirror in the story *On the Face of It*?
- (3) Why did people doubt Evan's sincerity towards taking the 'O' Level Exam, *Evan Tries an O-Level*?
- (4) Why was the girl tied to a chair in *Memories of Childhood*?

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**Marking Scheme**

**Section A: Reading**

**Max. Marks : 20**

**Answer Key**

1. a. to mind our thoughts, for our thoughts are the foundation, the inspiration, the motivating power of our deeds, and are the causes and the conditions of the effects.
  - b. Krishna says this because even when inactive on the bodily plane, we are all the time acting on the thought plane. Therefore, if we observe ourselves, we can easily mould our thoughts,
  - c. our thoughts affect the whole body. Each thought once generated and sent out becomes independent of the brain and mind and we live upon its energy depending upon its intensity
  - d. We can change our mood by mixing with people who are cheerful. We can bring about the desired result by following:
    - by choosing the thought seeds of right ideas, noble and courageous aspirations that will be received by minds of the same nature,
      - a. Right introspection will be required of us to determine what we really desire to effect.
- 1.2 a. Dynamic
  - b. Cyclic
  - c. introspection

**2.1 Title: Temple of Somnathpur**

- Notes
1. Prominent temples at Somnathpur
    - i. built around 1268 A.D. by the Hoyasalas.
    - ii. built by the most prolific temple-builders.
      - (ii) Belur and Helebid
      - (iii) suffered during the invasions of the 14 century
  2. Temple: the beauty and vitality
    - (a) Detailed sculpture- covering walls, pillars, ceilings.
    - (b) Three shikharas- stands star-shaped, raised platform - 24 edges
    - (c) The outer walls- detailed carvings
    - (d) the entire surface- carved plaques of stone,
    - (e) Vertical panels covered by exq.
  3. Temple as representation of Hinduism:
    - (a) with many incarnations
    - (b) many deities

4. Characteristic of Hoyasala sculptures
  - (a) the series of friezes on the outer walls
  - (b) revealed intricately carved caparisoned elephants .
  - (c) charging horsemen
  - (d) stylized flowers
  - (e) warriors, musicians, crocodiles, and swans.
5. Temple in the History
  - (a) actually comm.. Soma Dandanayaka or Somnath
  - (b) The inner center of the temple was the kalyana mandapa.
  - (c) Leading - three corridors, each ending in a shrine
  - (d) Each kind of Krishna-Venugopala, Janardana and Prasanna Keshava, Life-test, of plu.

**Key to Abbreviations used**

Inc.	includes
Exq.	exquisite
Fig.	figures
Test.	testimony
Plu.	Plurality
Comm..	commissioned

**1.2 Summary temple of Somnathpur is extraordinary due to the**

The sculptures on the walls, pillars, and even the ceiling which covered by exquisite figures of gods and goddesses. The sculptures have a series of friezes on the outer walls. The various motifs are carved elephants, charging horsemen and stylized flowers.

**Section B**

**3. ANSWER KEY**

**Poster**

<i>Caption</i> - Theatre Club presents 'The Miser'	1 mark
<i>Presentation (Content)</i>	3 marks
Date, Time, Venue	
Help the victims of earthquake	
Expression	1 mark

**Or**

**Notice**

<b>Format</b> - Title, Date, Signature with Designation	1 mark
<b>Content</b> - What, Where, When, amount to be deposited, Letter of Consent (Word Limit - 50)	2 marks

**Expression** - coherence, relevance 1 mark  
 spellings, grammatical accuracy 1 mark

#### 4. Report

**Format** - Title, Writer's Name 1 mark

**Content** - What, Where, When,  
 Chief Guest, Number of participating schools,  
 Details about the exhibits,  
 Result 4 marks

**Expression**- coherence, relevance 2 ½ marks  
 spellings, grammatical accuracy 2 ½ marks

OR

**Format** - Title, Writer's Name 1 mark

**Content** - What, Where, When,  
 International Book Fair  
 As many as 125 countries of the world participated  
 Lakhs of books on varied topics  
 Attractive books for children  
 Everyone should visit

**Expression**- coherence, relevance 2 ½ marks  
 spellings, grammatical accuracy 2 ½ marks

#### B-2: Factual Description

**Format** - Title, Writer's name (Place and date optional) 1 mark

**Content** - What, Where, When  
 Presence of important dignitaries  
 Mayawati's address gave hope to the people

**Expression**- Coherence, relevance 2 ½ mark  
 Spellings, grammatical accuracy 2 ½ mark

#### 5. B-3 : Letter

**Format** - Writer's add, receiver's add, date, subject, salutation and  
 complementary close 2 marks

**Content** - gender bias prevailing  
 - girls not given education  
 - considered inferior  
 - social evils like dowry system

- laws should be made
  - awareness programmes
  - need to change the mindset
- 3 marks

**Expression** - spellings, grammatical accuracy, Coherence, Cohesion

**Or**

**Format** - Writer's address, receiver's address, date, subject, salutation, complementary close 3 marks

**Content** - details about the books,  
 - No. of copies,  
 - Mode of payment 3 marks

**Expression** - Spellings, grammatical accuracy 2 ½ marks  
 Coherence, Cohesion 2 ½ marks

6. **Article- Argumentative/ Imaginative**

**Format** - Title, writer's name 1 mark

**Title** - Democracy

**Content** -

For

- Democracy provides equal opportunity to one and all
- It facilitates true harmony in the society
- It guarantees social equality and brotherhood
- It acknowledges participation of every citizen
- It is a form of government where universal adult franchise is available
- Provides equal growth opportunity to all its members
- It has become a shelter of unscrupulous elements

Against

- Social equality is only a myth- no where near reality
- Casteism, racialism, distinction among religion is the key words on which politicians are winning elections
- Illiterate people seem to be interested in the election as middle and upper middle classes have lost interest
- Democracy is no better than a social anarchy now a days
- Own conclusion

**Option II**

**Summer vacation on a hill station is really a wonderful experience**

- Relaxing experience
- Far away from hustle - bustle of life
- No tension of office/school/college
- Enjoying the picturesque landscape.
- Rejuvenates your peace and calm of nature

<b>Expression</b> - Coherence, relevance	2 ½ marks
Spelling, grammatical accuracy	2 ½ marks

- 7.(a) **Objectives:** To test the student's comprehension of the poem, their ability to interpret, evaluate and respond to the lines of the poem.

**Option -1**

**Value points:**

- a. Simile: Mother's face was as ashen as a dead body
- b. Cochin airport
  - Pangs of separation
- c. By looking out of the car at young trees

Or

- a. Map signifies a limitless world of opportunities but it is far removed for the slum children
- b. These children are poor and deprived children - slum school, dismal, impoverished world, authorities - apathetic unfair
- c. future-break 'fog' uncertainty no way out.

- (b) a. Wants true education for them
  - Should be given opportunities in life
  - People in authority should work for their upliftment
- b. It will help us to think about ourselves
  - about the world around us
  - the chaos we humans have created
  - it will help us introspect
- c. When a person dies we put him on a pedestal
  - we worship him
  - we elevate him in stature

8. **Objectives:** To test the student's ability for local comprehension of the prose texts.

**Marking Scheme:**

**Content :** 1 mark

**Expression :** 1 mark

**Value Point**

- a. was late
  - had not prepared his lesson on participles
- b. the incident when Douglas was thrown into the deep end of the pool by a boy who was about eighteen years old.

- c. it is an unwarranted intrusion into their lives.
- feel that the interview diminishes them.
- d. When he wasn't speaking it was as though he was away in a world which Sophie had never visited.
- e. To complain about injustice of the landlord system in Bihar.

9. **Objectives :** To test global comprehension of prose texts

**Marking Scheme:**

**Content :** 6 marks

**Expression :** 4 marks

**Value Points:**

- Bangle makers born in poverty, live in poverty, die in poverty.
- For generations people have been engaged in this trade.
- Work in inhuman conditions.
- Although they work hard but the profit is meager.
- Their hovels have crumbling walls, wobbly doors and no windows.
- They are overcrowded with humans and animals.
- Social customs, traditions, stigma of caste and people in authority combine so that they remain poor and uneducated
- Money lenders, middlemen, politicians and policemen are all against them.
- Unable to organize themselves into a co-operative due to lack of a leader.
- They have lost the ability to dream.
- They can only talk but not act to improve their lot.

**Or**

**Marking Scheme:**

**Content :** 6 marks

**Expression :** 4 marks

**Value points:**

- Author uses gentle human and mild satire.
- He has a chatty style which quickly changes from one thought to the other.
- Makes fun of the make-up applied to the artists which changes a decent person into a monster.
- Sets required the actors to look ugly so that they look presentable in the movie.
- Characters of the office boy, Subbu No. 2 and the legal adviser has many subtle touches of humor.
- Purpose of the visits of Moral Re-Armament Army and the English Poet baffles everyone.
- Baffled reaction of the staff Gemini studio arouses humor.
- Satire is also directed towards people who are against communism and would do anything to oppose it.

**10. Objectives :** To be able to comprehend incidents and evaluate it.

**Marking Scheme:**

**Content** : 1 mark for each value point (4 points)

**Expression** : 3 marks (1 ½ + 1 ½ accuracy and fluency)

**Value Points**

- The feeling of hatred for enemy country is created by the system/ government
- People are made to hate each other
- It is considered to be patriotic/ nationalistic
- Personally knowing or not knowing has no meaning in such cases.
- These are people who rise above such petty thoughts
- Like doctor Sadao- for him saving the patient was most important
- As a doctor that was his first duty-the sick, injured needed attention and the country to which the patient belongs did not matter to him.

## OPTION II

**Objectives :** To be able to comprehend incidents and evaluate it.

**Marking Scheme:**

**Content** : 1 mark for each value point (4 points)

**Expression** : 3 marks (1 ½ + 1 ½ accuracy and fluency)

**Value Points:**

- Adult is mature, experienced and has a practical approach
- Adult responses are tutored and actions reflect the thought
- Children are spontaneous
- Their responses are natural, not tutored
- They want excitement
- Their idea of story is very different from adults
- The girl wanted Wizard to hit Skunk's mother as she had forced Skunk to get back the offensive smell.
- The girl did not approve this, for her the baby Skunk was right
- From her perspective, it was fine if the Wizard hits Mommy.

**11. Objectives : To be able to comprehend incidents and evaluate it.**

**Marking Scheme:**

**Content** : 1 mark

**Expression** : 1 mark

**Value Points**

1. Charley had been the station for long
  - But each time he bumped into new doorways, stairs and corridors
  - Once had entered a long tunnel and came out near Roosevelt hotel
2. Derry was a boy of fourteen
  - Has a burn scar on his face which makes him feel low
  - He is scared of looking at himself in the mirror
3. Evans was an experienced thief
  - Had broken the jail many times
  - People saw this as his way to escape from prison
4. She was refusing to accept their decision
  - They wanted to cut her long hair
  - She felt insulted because of this.