

**CLASS XII SESSION 2017-18**  
**ENGLISH IMPORTANT QUESTIONS**  
**ADVANCED WRITING SKILLS**

- Q1. You are Romi/Rohit, Sports Captain of Sunshine International School. Your school has organized a marathon to promote a cause. Design a visually appealing poster about this in about 50 words.
- Q2. You are Dean , Admissions, MNT Professional College, Chandigarh. Draft an advertisement in about 50 words giving information about admission to undergraduate courses offered by your college.
- Q3. Principal, Sunrise Global School, Agra requires a receptionist for her school. Draft a suitable advertisement in about 50 words to be published in the classified columns of a national newspaper giving all the details of qualifications and experience required in the receptionist.
- Q4. Water supply will be suspended for eight hours (10 am to 6 pm) on 10<sup>th</sup> November for cleaning of the water tank. Write a notice in about 50 words advising the residents to store water for a day. You are Karun/ Karuna Bajaj, Secretary, Janata Group Housing Society, palam Vihar, Kurnool.
- Q5. Every year in the Central Park of the city a flower show is held in the month of February. Your school has received a circular from the district Collector inviting your students to visit it. Write a notice in about 50 words informing the students about the show and advising them to go and enjoy it, You are Navtej/Navita, Head Boy/Head Girl, Sunrise Public school, Surat.
- Q6. You want to sell a few household items as you are going abroad. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words . You are Dinesh/Divya of 15, Taj Nagari, Agra.
- Q7. You are Saurabh/Surbhi of Class XII at B.S.N. School, Gurgaon. You are aware that the present day youth are equipped with knowledge and information besides having energy and enthusiasm . Write a letter to the editor of a national daily highlighting how their energy can be tapped into removing poverty from India.
- Q8. Lack of job opportunities in the rural areas is forcing people to migrate to cities. Every big city thus has a number of slums in it. Life in these slums is miserable. Write a letter to the editor of a national newspaper on how we can improve the living conditions of the slums. You are Richa/ Rachit, A-65, jalvayu Vihar, New Delhi.
- Q9. Write a speech in about 150-200 words on 'Benefits of early Rising' to be delivered by you in the morning assembly of your school. You are Riya/ Ritesh, Head Girl/Head Boy.
- Q10. Write a speech in 150-20 words on the topic , 'Discipline shapes the future of a student'. It is to be delivered in the morning assembly . You are Amit/Amita.
- Q11. Teenagers are full of energy as well as ideas. Write an article on 'How to Channelise the Energy of the Teenagers'.
- Q12. India is a land of diversity . One way in which it makes us feel proud of it is the number of festivals we enjoy. Write an article on 'Festivals of India'. You are Nitin/ Natasha.
- Q13. 'Brain drain is not a bane for a developing country like India'. Write a debate either for or against the motion.

Q14. The odd even experiment in Delhi was criticized but keeping in mind the pollution, traffic snarls and road bursting with vehicles it is the need of the hour. Write a debate either for or against the motion. You are Amit/Amita.

### LITERATURE – POETRY

#### My Mother at Sixty Six

Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow:

. I looked again at her, wan,  
pale as a late winter's moon and felt that  
old familiar ache, my childhood's fear,  
but all I said was, see you soon,  
Amma, all I did was smile, smile and smile

1. What does the poet compare her mother's pale face to? Mention the poetic device.
2. What is meant by familiar ache?
3. What were her parting words to her mother?
4. What is the mood of the poet?
5. Why did she smile?
6. What is the fear of the poet?

B. ...and looked but soon  
put that thought away, and  
looked out at young  
trees sprinting, the merry children spilling  
out of their homes, but after the airport's  
security check, standing a few yards  
away, I looked again at her, wan, pale...

1. What thoughts did she put away?
2. What did she see outside?
3. What is the poetic device : trees sprinting
4. What did she once again observe on reaching the airport?
5. Name the poetic device: 'wan, pale, face''

Answer the following questions:

1. What images does the mother's face brings to the mind of the poet?
2. Analyze the turmoil that Kamala Das goes through in the poem?

3. Why are the young trees described as sprinting?

### **An Elementary School Classroom In A Slum**

**Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow:**

**....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 the words.**

1. What does the wall on the map signify?
2. Who are these children? What is their world like?
3. What kind of the future does the poet foresee for them?
4. Explain: ' Far far from rivers, capes, and stars of words'.

**.On their slag heap, these children**

**Wear skins peeped through by bones and spectacles of steel**

**With mended glass, like bottles bits of stones.**

**All of their time and space are foggy slum**

**So blot their maps with slums as big as doom.**

1. Which two images are used to describe these slums?
2. What sort of life do these children lead?
3. What idea does the poet convey through the expression “ wear skins peeped through by bones”?
4. Pick out the synonymn of “ have a look” from the extract.

**Answer the following questions:**

1. What theme does the poet explore in the poem?
2. How does the world depicted on the classroom walls differ from the world of the slum children?
3. Why does the Stephen Spender says that the pictures and maps in the classroom are meaningless?
4. “So blot their maps with slums as big as a doom”. What does the poet want to convey?
5. Describe the conditions of the children in the poem.

## KEEPING QUIET

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow:

**It would be an exotic moment  
without rush , without engines,  
we would all be together  
in a sudden strangeness.**

1. What would be an exotic moment and why?
2. Who is the poet speaking to?
3. What is the present condition of the world that forces the poet to make this request?

**Perhaps the Earth can teach us  
as when everything seems dead  
and later proves to be alive.  
Now I'll count up to twelve,  
and you keep quiet and I will go.**

1. Explain the figure of the speech used in the first line.
2. What can Earth teach us and why?
3. What does the poet asks everyone to do? Why?
4. How does Earth prove to be alive?

**What I want should not be  
confused  
with total inactivity  
Life is what it is about  
I want no truck with death.**

1. What does the poet mean by inactivity?
2. How is inactivity different from death?
3. What does 'truck with death ' mean?

**Answer the following questions:**

1. What is the sadness that the poet refers to in the poem?
2. Do you think that the poet advocates total inactivity?
3. What is the purpose of counting upto twelve?
4. What does the poet mean by green wars? What will be the consequences of such a war?

## **A THING OF BEAUTY**

**Read the extracts and answer the questions:**

**A thing of beauty is a joy forever**

**Its loveliness increases , it will never  
pass into nothingness, but will keep**

**A bower quiet for us, and a sleep**

**Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.**

1. "A thing of beauty is a joy forever". Explain.
2. Why a beautiful thing does not pass into nothingness?
3. What does poet mean by "a bower quiet for us"?
4. Give the rhyme scheme in the above lines.

**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,**

**Of all the unhealthy and o'er darkened ways**

**Made for our searching:**

1. What are the flowery bands that binds us to the earth?
2. Why do we wreath ourselves with flowery bands every morrow?
3. What according to the poet is the normal course of life?
4. Mention the rhyme scheme used in the poem.

**Answer the following questions:**

1. Why is grandeur associated with mighty dead?
2. How does beauty sustain our life on earth?
3. According to Keats , what makes man love life in spite of all its problems and miseries?
4. Why does Keats compare beautiful things to an endless fountain?

## **AUNT JENNIFER'S TIGERS**

**Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow:**

**Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool**

**Find even the ivory needle hard to pull**

**The massive weight of uncle's wedding band**

**Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.**

1. Why are her fingers fluttering?
2. How is Jennifer different from the images created by her?
3. Why she feels the weight of the wedding band?
4. Why is Aunt embroidering tigers?

**When aunt is dead , her terrified hands will lie**

**Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by**

**The tigers in the panel that she made**

**Will go on prancing , proud and unafraid.**

1. Explain "ringed with ordeals".
2. What does "terrified hands" symbolise?
3. What lies in store for poet's aunt?
4. What is the future of the tigers?

**Answer the questions that follow:**

1. How do 'denizens' and 'chivalric' add to our understanding of the tiger's attitudes?
2. Interpret the symbols used in the poem.
3. Explain the theme of the poem.
4. What do the tigers symbolise?
5. Why did Aunt Jennifer choose to embroider the tigers?

**FLAMINGO**

**SHORT QUESTION ANSWERS:-**

1. What changes came over little Franz after he heard M. Hamel's announcement?
2. What did M. Hamel tell his students about French language ? What did he ask them to do and why?
3. What are the different connotations of the word 'garbage' to the children and adult rag pickers of Seemapuri ?
4. Why does the author say that the bangle makers are caught in a vicious web?
5. How did Douglas overcome "the old terror"?
6. How did the incident at the Y.M.C.A. pool affect William Douglas later in his life?
7. Why was Edla happy to see the gift left by the peddler?
8. Why did the peddler think that the world was a rattrap?
9. Explain the 'conflict of duties' that Gandhiji told the court he was involved in.
10. Why do you think Gandhi considered the Champaran episode to be a turning-point in his life?

11. What were the options that Sophie was dreaming of ? Why does Jansie discourage her from having such dreams?
12. Did Sophie really meet Danny Casey ?

**LONG QUESTION ANSWERS:-**

1. How was the last lesson different from the usual lessons taught on other days? Describe the last lesson.
2. The bangle makers of Firozabad make beautiful bangles to make everyone happy but they live and die in squalor. Elaborate
3. 'But I was not finished '. Describe how Douglas built up his confidence as a swimmer after the instructor had left him.
4. Compare and contrast the character of the iron master with that of his daughter.
5. How did Gandhi use non-Violence and civil disobedience at Champaran to achieve his goal?
6. Sophie and Jansie were classmates and friends . What were the differences between them that show up in the story ?

**VISTAS**

**Short answer questions**

1. What did the British officer's secretary tell the Maharaja ? Why did the Maharaja refuse the permission?
2. Even though the Maharaja lost Rs 3 lakh , he was still happy . Why ?
3. Why did the servants leave Dr. Sadao's house?
4. What was the special benefit enjoyed by Dr. Sadao during the war times?
5. Why was Roger Skunk's Mummy angry with him ? What did she finally tell him?
6. Why did Roger Skunk go in search of the wizard ?
7. What qualities of Mr. Lamb attracted Derry to him?
8. According to Derry , what people think and say about him?
9. How did the question paper and the correction slip help the prisoner and the governor ?
10. Why did Evans not take off his hat when Jackson ordered him to do so ?
11. What made Bama suddenly sad at the same sight?
12. Why was Zitkala-Sa terrified when Judewin told her that her hair would be cut short ?

**Long answer questions**

1. How did the Tiger King meet his end ? What is ironical about his fate ?
2. What assessment do you make of Dr. Sadao's character after reading the story 'The Enemy'?
3. Why did Jo disapprove of Jack's ending of the story of Roger Skunk ? How did she want it to end?
4. What is the bond that unites both Mr. Lamb and Derry?
5. How did Evans manage his escape from prison ?
6. Describe how Zitkala-Sa tried in vain to save her hair from being cut. Why did she want to save her hair?
7. How did Bama attain dignity and honour in spite of her "low caste"?

## NOVEL

### THE INVISIBLE MAN

H.G.WELL

1. How does the story of 'The Invisible Man' bring out the consequences of science going wrong ? Write your answer in 120 – 150 words.
2. Knowledge needs to be shared among like-minded people for human development. To what extent was the decline of Griffin the result of his inability to share his findings? Write your answer in 120-150 words.
3. Describe briefly the role of Dr. Cuss , as played in the novel ' The Invisible Man'.
4. Describe how Griffin was brought to his terrible end in 120-150 words.
5. Mr. Marvel made excuses for resignation. How did the 'Invisible Man' react to it? Write your answer in 120-150 words.
6. George Hall is a typical example as one of the residents of Iping village. Taking cues from the novel write a character- sketch of Mr. Hall in 120-150 words