DAV Sr. Sec. Public School, Rihand Nagar, Sonebhadra (U.P.)

ASSIGNMENT NO. 3 CLASS XII ENGLISH

M.M. 100

M.T. 03 hrs. 20 mks.

SECTION A : READING

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: 12 mks.

1. In this jet age, everyone is interested in making easy money. Thanks to the advancement in science and technology, these days life has become more easy and comfortable than earlier with a lot of domestic gadgets as well as instantaneous food recipes available in the market. This has resulted in making the people develop a mindset to have anything immediately without waiting for – even at the traffic signals.

2. A piano teacher described an interesting encounter she had with a young lady who came to inquire about music lessons. The young lady asked her, "How long will this course take?" My father tells me that it is in fashion now to be able to play musical instruments and that I should learn one quickly, I WANT SOMETHING THAT WILL BE QUICK, FAST AND EASY LIKE, LIKE..." When the amused teacher explained that it would take a lifetime of meticulous practice to learn music, her face fell and, needless to say, she never came back.

3. The single most important factor that distinguishes those of us who succeed in any venture from those of us who don't is this 'instant coffee' attitude. Most of us want results quickly. We want to reach the top immediately and get worked up when things go wrong. Perseverance and patience are forgotten words. We get upset, frustrated and angry when a skill or activity requires us to put in a lot of effort and time. We get dejected and want to give it up. Things should be easy. Why should things take long? It is unfair.

4. Life is too short and there is not enough time to do all the things we want to. We tend to compare with others and get upset when they seem to be doing well-dismissing their achievement as pure luck-or think that they have support, help, approach ... that God is being too kind to them and not to us. And so we give up.

5. But such thinking serves no purpose. For it doesn't solve the problem. Life is tough for those with the 'instant coffee' attitude.

6. Success, real success and happiness come to those who have a 'bread-making' attitude. Those who are willing to knead the dough, wait for hours for it to rise only to punch it down and knead some more, wait for another couple of hours for it to rise again, then bake it before it is ready to be eaten. Nothing is instantaneous. For every endeavour- whether in the area of career, academics, music, sports, relationships, physical fitness or even in spirituality-it is a long arduous journey.

7. Only if we are willing to spend time, put in painstaking effort and have faith, can we get results. If we don't accept this difficult but true fact of life, our lives will be far from being happy and

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fulfilling. For we may not make that estra effort which can change the course of life dramatically, for our benefit.

8. I often come across clients who have changed their doctors and do that even after energy have spoken to me-because they are on the lookout for a doctor who will instantly give them relief from their problems. One who will ensure that by the time they reach home from the clinic they will have wonderfully fulfilling relationships with their families. No wonder, most of us get bitter and disillusioned with life and ourselves and look for escape routes which seem to promise quick results.

9. The major problem with these 'instant-coffee' solutions is that they are invariably shortlived. If we stubbornly refuse to five up this search for quick solutions, all we do is end up on the wrong track. We never gain anything lasting from them. However, if we just pause to analyse what we are doing, we will realize how much time we are wasting searching for such magical solutions which simply do not exist. We actually save time when we stop this futile search and accept the proven methods of treading the straight and narrow path however difficult it may seem initially.

[a] I. Why did the young lady who wished to learn piano not go back to her teacher?
II. What causes a person with 'instant coffee' attitude to get upset or dejected?
III. What qualities do people with a 'bread-making' attitude have?
IV. What will be the disadvantage if we do not accept the 'difficult-but-true' fact of life?
V. What is the major problem with the 'instant coffee' solutions?

[b] Find words from the above passage which mean the same as: 3X1=3I. happening immediately [para 1] II. Strenuous [para 6] III. Walking [para 9]

2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: 8 mks.

To date happiness has defied definition. Most people tend to equate happiness with fun, good living, plenty or money. If happiness were synonymous with all this, rich people with all their luxuries and countless parties, would be perpetually happy. But in actual fact, they are, frequently, acutely unhappy, despite their riches and ability to indulge in fun activities at will. Fun is what we experience during an act; happiness is that intangible something we experience after an act. We may have fun watching a movie, going shopping, meeting friends-these are all fun activities that afford us fleeting moments of relaxation and enjoyment. Happiness, on the other hand, is a much stronger, deeper and more abiding emotion.

If we perceive happiness as the ultimate goal, we must also devise a way to reach that goal. The way to happiness is not a smooth, broad highway along which we can cruise at a comfortable speed. It is a path through rocky and rugged terrain and the going can become very tough at times. At these times we have to roll up our sleeves and with pitchfork and shovel makes our way onwards. This pursuit of happiness lasts a lifetime. Great happiness is earned only by great effort and effort not in spurts but diligent, constant effort.

In this connection we are confronted with another fallacy, that fun and pleasure mean

happiness and thus pain, its corollary, must be synonymous with unhappiness. But in fact the truth is quite different. Things that bring us happiness, more often than not, involve some amount of pain. It is because of misconception that people avoid the very endeavour that is the source of true happiness. Difficult endeavours-such as the raising of children, establishing deeper relationships with loved ones, trying to do something worthwhile in life-hold the promise of a world of happiness.

Happiness is not a permanent vacation. Another prevalent belief is that if one were rich enough not to have to work one would be blissfully happy. But a job is more than just a pay cheque. Almost all religions teach us that work is worship. Work holds the key to happiness as doing something which increases confidence and self-worth. It brings on a feeling of satisfaction, of doing something, of contributing. Job satisfaction comes less from how much one earns than from the challenge of the job. Of course the pay-cheques count. It would be unrealistic to suggest that one could be happy without a basic shelter, roaming the streets on an empty stomach.

A secret ingredient of happiness is contentment. Contentment here does not mean apathy or lack of ambition, just as commitment does not mean curtailment of freedom. Commitment teaches us to give so that we may receive and contentment helps us to cherish the gifts we have received. These things are worth a try even if they don't promise access to the pinnacle of success. Success, after all, has been described as getting what one wants, whereas happiness is liking what one gets.

[a] On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using	headings and
sub-headings.	[5]
[b] Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words.	[3]

SECTION – B [Advanced Writing Skills]

3. You want to let out a portion of your newly constructed independent house. Write a suitable advertisement to be published in the classified column of an English Daily. [5]

35 mks.

OR

Your friend (Sanidhya) has invited you (Kausal) to attend a birthday celebration at his house. Write an informal reply expressing your inability to attend the same. [5]

4. You are an eye witness of a road accident resulting in loss of human life and property. As a special correspondent of Indian Express write a report for your news paper. [10]

OR

You received training in First Aid, as a member of Red Cross Society, in a training camp held by your school. Draft a report about the 'First Aid Training Camp' to be published in your school magazine. [10]

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5. Write a letter to the police commissioner (Traffic) about the inadequate parking facilities in the Commercial Street area of Bangalore, which is causing a lot of inconvenience to the people. You may also offer your suggestions to solve it.

OR

In its bid to educate people about the harmful effects of cigarette smoking, the Govt. of India has been taking serious steps to prevent it. A few years ago it ordeed all cigarette manufacturing units tok insert a statutory warning on cigarette packs. Now it is considering censorship of all cigarette smoking scenes in Indian cinema. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily giving your own views. [10]

6. You are Gopi Nath. Write an article in about 150 words for your school magazine showing your concern about ever increasing trend in youngsters toward Western Culture. [10]

OR

4

Water is very precious. Some scientists even go the extent of saying that the third world war may be fought on the issue of water. Keeping in view the need for saving each drop of water, write an article in about 150 words. [10]

SECTION – C [LITERATURE : TEXT BOOKS & LONG READING TEXTS] 30+15=45 Mks.

7. Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow:

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.

a. What remains alive when everything seems dead?

b. What does the earth teach us?

c. Why does the poet count up to twelve?

d. What will keeping quiet help us achieve?

OR

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: Yes, in spite of all, Some shape of beauty moves away the pall From our dark spirits.

- a. What are we doing every day?
- **b**. Describe bad and evil things that we possess in us.
- c. What are the flowery bands that bind us to the earth?
- d. What removes the pall from our dark spirits?

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- 8. Answer any two of the following questions.
 - a. What does the poet wish for the children of the slums?
 - **b.** What are the images that are used by the poet to describe the beautiful bounty of the earth?
 - **d.** Describe the tigers created by Aunt Jennifer.
- 9. Answer any six of the following questions.
 - a. What does Sophie dream of doing after school? Why does Jansie discourage her?
 - **b.** Why did M.Hamel write, 'Vive La France' on the blackboard in large bold letters?
 - **c.** Mention some of the hazards involved in working in a glass factory.
 - d. Why did Sophie wriggle when Geoff told her father that she had met Danny Casey?
 - **e.** Why was Zitkala-Sa averse to having her hair cut? How did she hope to escape this predicament and what was the outcome?
 - **f.** The actual pain or inconvenience caused by a physical impairment is often much less than the sense of alienation felt by the person with disabilities. Elucidate.
 - g. Why had Dr. Sadao Hoki been retained in Japan and not been sent overseas with the troops?

10. Answer the following question in 100-125 words.

Rajkumar Shukla was a resolute man. Despite being illiterate, how did he work in favour of the residents of Champaran?

OR

Both the units of 'Memories of Childhood' present autobiographical episodes from the lives of two women from 'marginalised communities.' Describe the main issues raised as well as the common features highlighted in them.

11. Read the following and answer the question that follows: [Value Based] 5
 Then he turned to the blackboard, took a piece of chalk and, bearing on with all his might, he wrote as large as he could – "Vive La France!"

Abraham Lincoln, a former President of America said,

"I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives.

I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him."

After reading the lesson and the above quote of Abraham Lincoln you begin to reflect on the lost spirit of patriotism amongst the youth in India due to which there is no respect for one's countrymen and no determination amongst the youth to lead the country to a better future.

Write an article in about 100 words on the need for revival of patriotic spirit amongst the youth in India.

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2X2=4

6X2=12

5

13. Describe the character traits of Mrs. Laura Lyons.

Additional VALUE BASED Questions [05 Mkd. Each]

11. The mortality of a human being is a bare fact. But this is also a reality that cowards die several times before death. A human being should never forget his principles because of fear. They must protest against injustice and exploitation. Discuss the theme [Indigo] in not more than 10 words.

11. It is often said that poverty is the root cause of all evils. The wrong doings are the offspring of misfortunes and miseries. Discuss the topic mentioned above in not more than 100 words.

Additional Qs. From 'The Hound of the Baskervilles'

12. Cartwright supports Holmes in discharging his duties. Prove.	8
12. Why does Dr. Mortimer say that "There is a reign of terror in the district and that it is a hardy	
man who'll cross the moor at night."	8
13. Who was Sir Henry? Discuss his attributes briefly.	7
13. Who was Watson? Describe his character traits.	7

"<u>A HERO is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to PERSEVERE</u> and ENDURE In spite of overwhelming OBSTACLES."

GOOD LUCK!

By: BHUPAL SINGH PGT,Eng.

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