

MT EDUCARE LTD.

ICSE X

SUBJECT : **ENGLISH PAPER I**

BOARD PAPER - 2017

ANSWERSHEET

Answer 1.

(a)

IT WAS RAINING HARD

It was raining hard that night. In my hurry to get into the house, I didn't notice the black car parked across the road. I realized something was wrong when an arm pulled me into the bush next to the door. I tried shouting but another big palm landed on my mouth. I struggled with my legs but soon felt a fistful blow that made me unconscious.

I woke up to loud voices of men and women screaming around me and the heat made me squirm uncomfortably. I opened my eyes, feeling dizziness in my head and coughed. There was smoke all around me. I heard the sound of a fire engine loud and realised to find myself in a house that was on fire.

It was not my house, the things lying were not mine. This was an unknown place.

I felt scared now. Looking to find a way out I pulled myself up and started moving towards the door. I touched the doorknob and 'aeww', it was hot. It then struck me, the house was on fire and I was much inside one of the houses.

I didn't know what to do. The coughs became frequent and breathing difficult too. I didn't realize when I fell down unconscious. I could feel nothing, but faintly heard a door breaking open and I being covered and carried away.

The cool breeze on the skin and faint voices calling out my name, brought me out of the deep slumber. I opened my eyes to white walls and lights around me. I felt a warm hand on my palm and exciting words. 'He is awake now !' Moving my head towards the right, I saw the most beautiful face, my mother and tears welled up in my eyes. Feeling safe I drifted peacefully into sleep again.

My parched throat, forced me out of sleep and I mumbled softly, 'water', 'water !' I drank a few drops and opened my eyes, feeling a lot better. It felt like a rebirth.

[25]

(a)

SCHOOL DAYS ARE THE HAPPIEST DAYS OF OUR LIVES

(i)

FOR THE MOTION

School was like my first home with my teachers and friends my family! I still remember the first day in school.

No one of us crying, but playing happily and taking turns on the slide. Those were the carefree days. No worries. Learning the letters of the alphabet and numbers was no big deal. Although the best part was shouting our lungs out while telling the poetry rhymes, my favourite time was spent in the little garden that had slides, merry-go-round and other play stuffs. Soon time flew past, we all were in Primary Section. I still remember those moments vividly- all that fun-sneaking around the corridors, playing in the rains, stealing

mangoes from the mango tree in our school garden and watching our play ground turn into swimming pool.

One incident that I can never forget, is the "The Rat's Day Out.- Our Science teacher Mrs. Kamath was taking our class, when suddenly someone from the corner of the class screamed "Eekkkss! There's a rat here", so we all jumped on our bench-tops, more shouting and screaming followed, but somehow Kamath Miss convinced and made us sit at our places so that she could proceed, but we were not in a mood to listen, and every five minutes someone would shout that there is a rat here and there to which finally, Kamath Miss got annoyed and called the peon. The class was vacated and the peons went on RAT HUNT. Finally, after 15 minutes, the rat was caught, but the moment we stepped inside, the bell rang to which we all heaved a sigh of relief!

One more incident I recall is when we were in Standard 10, when our Principal decided to take our History Classes (normally Principal sir never took classes). For a week we did succeed in trying hard to act decent in front of the principal, but soon got bored, moreover we were frustrated by the way our principal taught us. Every day she would revise whatever she taught the day before and then start afresh. Then one day we observed that whenever one of our classmates was coughing, Madam would stop until, he stopped coughing. There, our devil brains started working again. So from the next day, we began our daily ritual of COUGHING our heart's way out. Our Principal tried to adjust for week with our persistent sneezing, but ultimately she complained to our Class teacher. So the next day, our Teacher distributed Halls tablets in the whole class and warned us that we should not catch Cold.

Seriously I enjoyed school days a lot. Whenever I meet my old school mates, such beautiful memories flash again and bring back smiles and tears of joy and we miss our school all the more, the place...where I spent the happiest days of my life.

[25]

Or

(ii)

AGAINST THE MOTION

It's not necessary that the schooldays are always the happiest days of our lives as we generally think. They sometimes appear to be a nightmare. Some people don't even want to dream of their school days as they bring fear into the mind. The first thing that terrorizes the children is getting up early in the morning when the rest of the world is sleeping. The anxiety begins at night only when one has to prepare the bag according to the timetable, get his or her uniform ironed and polish the shoes. They enter the bathrooms yawning and unwantedly when it's still dark in the morning. After which, waiting on the bus stop or the tempo stand in the early morning hours on the lonely roads adds one more tag to the boring routine life.

In the class again the teachers are aggressive who pressurize the children for completing work on time. They scold or punish the children for negligence and thus develop a kind of inferiority complex in them. They feel insulted in front of the other students if the work remains incomplete and howsoever genuine reason they give, the teacher is not going to listen. It seems as if the teachers have descended from

some other planet or as if they are from army who still hold the strict army rules. They are rude, rough and bitter and that may be due to their demanding job profile as they have to face a class of mixed children but. Children don't understand their limitations.

Then there are boring school uniforms. The same colour, the same pattern, the same hair style and the same footwear. It's difficult to see the so called uniformity daily. Everything becomes so monotonous that children lose charm in attending the classes. Apart from this, there are daily morning assemblies which children usually hate and try to avoid. They find different excuses to sit in the class. Sometimes they get a diary note to be shown to the class teacher or the monitor to sit in the class during assembly.

It's not necessary that all the subjects are interesting for all the children. Some may find Biology interesting; some may find English and some Math. So what happens is that, the uninterested children create chaos in the class and disturb other students as there is no system in our country to provide only those subjects to the children in which they are interested.

So I can say that, there is one or the other anxiety always during the school time. One has to be time bound and cannot behave or live the life of a free bird.

[25]

(c)

FRIENDSHIP

Haroon and I were best friends long since we met in grade 5. He was the only friend I had when I moved to England with my family. We had studied in the same school and college but our path diverged as we grew up and both followed our own ambitions. Haroon became a radio jockey and I became a lawyer. Though we were far apart, yet we would never miss an opportunity to meet each other and help each other in times of need.

One day he called me to say that he had been arrested and I went to rescue my best friend. I bailed him out of jail and then he told me that, the previous evening when he was returning from his work, he had stopped at a nearby mart to buy some food items, when he saw a black man beating up a teenager. Being a good Samaritan, he went to help the teenager and knocked out the man. The teenager ran away.

Haroon called the police and after investigation it was found that the black man was the owner of the shop and was beating the robber (the teenager). Even though Haroon tried his best to explain to the police, what the misconception was but no one was ready to listen to him and it appeared as he had accompanied an armed robbery and assaulted a civilian, and consequently he was arrested and taken to the Jail.

Haroon was confused and shocked on what was going on and suddenly realized that he had actually saved the robber! I believed my buddy as I knew he could never do such misdeed and as he couldn't afford a lawyer, so I insisted with him on keeping me.

Haroon had to appear in front of a court to explain his actions. The police had caught the thief who was involved and he blamed Haroon of being the mastermind of the plot even though Haroon had no idea of who he was! The video of the fight going outside the mart was shown which made Haroon look as the criminal. I argued that the

tape of inside the mart should also be seen to prove that Haroon was innocent. Though the judge had made his decision, yet he ordered the tape to be shown and it seemed obvious that Haroon had helped the robber unintentionally. The judge saw this as a case of misconception and apologized for the problems caused. Overjoyed, Haroon and I congratulated each other.

[25]

(d)

MY EXPERIENCE ON A RAINY DAY

My Experience on 'A Rainy Day' gives me sweet memories. Rains are blessings. Rains are a curse. If we could control rains and bring them on wherever we are in need or keep them off as long as we desires them, of course rains would be a blessing. But as we all know that elements of nature are not under human control, they are sometimes not to our liking. There was a day when it rained and I did not like it.

It was a holiday and I had planned to enjoy the day. I were to pay a visit to my sister at Thriuttani which is at a distance of 75 kilometres from my place. Early that morning I started from my house. Even at that hour I could see bad weather ahead. Dark, smoky clouds gave the warning of rain. I thought 'I would be safe if I got into a bus.

I was getting into the bus when it started raining and it rained the way like never before. Within a few minutes everyone was drenched to the skin. None got the time to get a shelter. In a very short time the roads were flooded and the traffic came to a standstill. Visibility was reduced to a few meters. It poured so heavily that even the headlights could not pierce the thick sheet of water pouring from the sky. Water collected more speedily on roads than it went down the drains.

The stalls and the temporary structures for the shops at the bus stop dripped. Those inside the shops and buses were in no way better than those outside on the road, who were getting wet in utter helplessness. It soon became worse. The stools, benches, chairs and small tables, outside the shops and stalls began to float in the rising streams of rain water. It was a pity to see people running after their articles.

A man running to catch a bench fell into a drain. He might have been swept away by the strong current but the water itself threw him out. The poor man stood for a moment looking dazed at the rushing water. It rained continuously for four hours and during this period all activities came to a halt. When at last the rain stopped, I was hardly in shape to carry on my journey. There was hardly any time left for the return trip.

Moreover, I felt home sick and longed to be at home in my comfortable bed. Hence, I came home sad and tired.

[25]

(e)

PICTURE COMPOSITION

We have evolved from animals and since then, we humans do have a connection with them. Animals have been man's best pals and they would understand you so well that you won't even have to say what you want or feel. It is said very often that a Dog is a man's best friend.

The relation that you develop with an animal is lifelong and rigid unlike of that what you build up with man.

Those having pets would be able to explain better the relation they hold with these animals. Animals respond back with all their love and affection and would make sure that no harm reaches us. Whether it is birds or animals, pets have a special bonding with their masters. Apart from the bonding they also provide great services to their masters. Like for example, cats and dogs are the most common pets found. Cats help in keeping the house clean by killing rodents and insects and dogs safeguard the house and keep strangers away. The sensitivity to smell for dogs has been the greatest tool used to hunt down any kind of criminal act for humans. Apart from them, even birds form a great company. Parrots are wonderful pets and they talk so much that it is real fun to be with them. They also inform the owner when strangers are around.

Apart from cats and dogs, horses, elephants, donkeys, camels are all tamed and used by man for his useful needs. These animals help man in several ways and have been of help to man for several decades. Animals also rescue men from danger. There have been instincts where dogs have saved small kids or old men from dangerous situations like drowning or when in an accident.

The help that these animals give could not be measured in any means and animals and man do share a special kind of bonding. Rather than seeing the commercial side with animals, if man tries to be more compassionate with them, they would do anything for him and maintain an everlasting relationship.

[25]

Answer 2.

(a) Sannidhya Datta
Tarangi nagar, M.G. road,
West Bengal



23rd March 2017

To,
The Municipal Commissioner,
Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation,
Kolkata

SUBJECT: HANGING LIVE WIRES IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL
MAIN.GATE Sir,

I would like to bring to your kind notice, the miserable condition caused due to hanging of live wires in front of our school main gate. Our Area is Salt Lake City Sector-1, Kolkata. Although we have made repeated complaints to the Muncipal authorities at repeated intervals, they have turned a deaf ear to our complaints. These wires have been causing havoc among kids who disperse through that gate and it has been a persistent issue for long now.

We would thereby like to call for your immediate attention for the said problem without any further delays.

Yours sincerely,
Sannidhya Datta

[25]

- (b) Plot no: 137
M.G Road
Agrapath
Hyderabad

23rd March 2017

Dear grandma,

I hope that this letter finds you in the best of health and spirits. Recently, I had the opportunity to organise the annual cultural fest of my school- 'Ullas'. It was a three-day long inter school cultural fest with a huge number of events ranging from painting to writing to spell bee to dance and so on. We had a huge participation from schools across the city and it was an all in all success. However, our school came second in the fest overall. All my team members and I were appreciated for organising the event so well in the first morning assembly after the fest. It was indeed a great learning experience for all of us and this event helped us a lot to develop our sense of team spirit, working as a group hence we had a lot to take back. However, when the principal praised in the assembly it was a great experience for all of us. Hope to hear from you soon.

Yours lovingly
Sunny,

[10]

Answer 3.

- (a) (i) Continued [1]
(ii) Of 10 years [1]
(iii) Encroacher [1]
- (b) (i) Bipin Chowdhury had a few friends and he didn't socialize much. Moreover, he always took his dinner at 8:30 pm after which he devoted all the time to reading books. [2]
(ii) Bipin would get rid of the visitors by telling them at 8 pm that under the doctor's instructions he was to take dinner at 8:30 pm. [2]
(iii) Bipin Babu had been uncomfortable when the man kept on telling him that they had spent the October of 1958 together at a place where the former came for the very first time. [2]
(iv) Bipin Babu said that in the October of 1958, he was at Kanpur with his friend and this was the strongest argument that he gave: [2]
(v) Bipin Babu regretted having given so much of attention to the person rather the intruder and for having answered all his questions diligently. [2]
(vi) Although Bipin Babu felt that he should not have given so much of importance to the intruder he felt that he had an excellent memory and that he indeed loved his stay. [2]
- (c) Parimal Ghose in the beginning told that he had met Bipin before and that he was the one to arrange cars for his trip to Hudroo Falls. Additionally, he also said when the latter had cut his right knee he was the one to get iodine and how allergic Bipin was to hotel food



and that he carried a bag of books while he went for sightseeing and finally he also added that it was October of nineteen fifty eight when he came and also said that they had tea one evening where the former told about his family. [8]

- (d) The Persuasive Man : This is because Parimal Ghose by all means tries to pursue Bipin Chowdhury to believe in the fact that had been to Ranchi before. [2]

Answer 4.

- (a) (i) was [½]
(ii) stopped [½]
(iii) encouraged [½]
(iv) would [½]
(v) playing [½]
(vi) envied [½]
(vii) seemed [½]
(viii) going [½]
- (b) (i) at [½]
(ii) with [½]
(iii) off [½]
(iv) in [½]
(v) on [½]
(vi) through [½]
(vii) near [½]
(viii) up [½]
- (c) (i) This is the hospital where I was born. [1]
(ii) The children were unable to go to school for a week as they had been sick. [1]
(iii) Mrs. Kumar who has been a teacher for thirty years will now retire. [1]
(iv) Since we have no respect for nature, we are suffering from the effects of global warming. [1]
- (d) (i) Few people read for pleasure these days. [1]
(ii) Meera has been good in Mathematics since childhood. [1]
(iii) Ramu said that they had no rain since January. [1]
(iv) It is not only dangerous but also illegal to drive a motorcycle without a helmet. [1]
(v) In spite of the plentiful wealth he had, he was not happy. [1]
(vi) He was too tired to stand. [1]
(vii) There was no inexperienced mountaineer amongst them. [1]
(viii) This is the worst film I have ever seen. [1]

