

Zenith Program (Std X)
Preparatory Program – NTSE Stage 1

2016 Test Paper – English



Time – 45 Mins

Marks -50

Work Hard . Make History

Directions (Q. Nos. 1 - 5):

Read the passage and answer the questions based on it:

In towns and cities of north and west India, kite flying is a craze. People fly their kites mostly from the roofs of their houses. At some places kites are flown from open grounds. Being a fun sports all times, kites are flown throughout the year. However there are some special occasions, on which every enthusiast involves himself in Patang Baazi. These occasions include Makar Sankranti, Basant Panchami, Raksha Bandhan and Independence Day.

Basant Panchami is one of the biggest festivals of North India. It heralds both the approach of the harvest and the end of winter. This spring festival is celebrated by flying kites, mainly of yellow colour, which represents the ripening mustards in the fields. From morning onwards, the roofs of almost every house become full of young and old, keeping their kites afloat. By early afternoon, the sky becomes peppered with kites of different color and sizes. The fun of Basant Panchami does not preclude the intense competition that is a unique north Indian phenomenon - cutting each other's kite lines. Each time a kite's lifeline is severed, a cheer, "Bo-kata" (loosely translated as a "a kite cut off), is sent up by the victor.

1. What does the yellow colour kite represent?

- (1) End of winter (2) Ripening of mustard
(3) Harvest season (4) All of these

2. Pick out the antonyms for 'Victor':

- (1) Winner (2) Loser
(3) Rivals (4) Master

3. Which festivals are mentioned in the passage?

- (1) Basant Panchami (2) Makar Sankranti
(3) Both (1) and (2) (4) None of these

4. In which season is Basant Panchami celebrated?

- (1) Summer (2) Winter
(3) Autumn (4) Spring

5. Which of these pairs is the odd man out?

- (1) Flying kites (2) Biggest festival
(3) Yellow colour (4) Paper lamps

Directions (Q. Nos. 6 - 10)

Read the following passage and answer the questions based on it:

It could be a scene straight out of a horror film. Only it was reality in suburban Mumbai. Rain lashed on the ground. A hundred children wailed in terror in a cramped, dark hall. Water gushed in from all sides and inched up. The inmates of Additional Bal Griha of the Children's Aid Society mostly terrified children, sang their daily prayer: "Itni shakti humme dena data" Asma, however, was the odd one out.

She started calculating how soon children will start drowning. "I could only think of one thing. That I couldn't bear to see the smaller ones drown. I am their dadi." She picked up two of the smaller kids and jumped into the water nearly five feet of dirty, black liquid. "I don't know how to swim. So, slowly I moved across the slippery ground, keeping my head up to keep the water from getting into my mouth and nose." She made over a dozen such trips, carrying nearly 40 kids on her shoulders to safety. Wasn't she scared? "Nothing scares me," she says. Why didn't any of the other inmates join her? "Oh, well, I'm the tallest!" The girl doesn't know who or where her parents are ("Kya pata" she says). Nor does she care, to know about her life history from the orphanage files. But Asma certainly knows more about parenting than most. She loves to watch TV serials

6. The natural calamity that the passage mentions is

- (1) Floods (2) Heavy rains
(3) Electricity failure (4) Waterfall

7. The most Courageous act of Amsa was:

- (1) Rescuing the children
(2) Taking care of small kids
(3) Plunging in water to save kids through she could not swim.
(4) Being of help to others

8. The incident happened in:

- (1) A hallway (2) An orphanage
(3) A school (4) A TV serial

9. In what scene was Asma the 'odd one' out?

- (1) She could not swim
(2) She did not know who her parents were
(3) She was not scared
(4) She ventured in the water to save younger kids while just watched

10. Which word in the passage means 'cried in a low pitch'?

- (1) Wailed (2) Cramped
(3) Terror (4) Inmates

Directions (Q. Nos. 11-15):

Read the passage and answer the following questions:

In 1933 - 34 I got my first chance to play in Test cricket in India. The M.C.C. team under Douglas Jardine was in our country to play three Test matches. Fortunately I was able to do sufficient well to retain my place in all the three Tests.

During the Test matches my younger sister, Laxmi, had given me an autograph book to get the autographs of the visiting players. I had carefully put down M.C.C. Touring Team - 1933-34 on one of the pages. Under this heading I took the autographs of all the 16 players who visited India.

Two months later I had an occasion to approach Gandiji for his autograph which my sister was very keen to have. There were quite a few people present when I made my request. Gandiji smiled and leafed through the pages of the autograph book and then underneath the names of the M.C.C. players wrote. '17- M.K. Gandhi'. I immediately understood the greatness of the man and what had prompted him. By that unforgettable signature as the seventeenth man of the M.C.C. team he showed that although he was prepared to fight the British Government tooth and nail for the independence of India, he had nothing against the common man of England and was prepared to put himself down as the seventeenth man of an English Cricket Team.

11. Which nations team played three test matches?

- (1) West Indies and India (2) England and India
(3) Australia and India (4) S. Africa and India

12. With whom was Mahatma Gandhi fighting for freedom?

- (1) British people (2) British Governor
(3) British Government (4) All of these

13. The phrase 'to put down' means:

- (1) wear (2) write
(3) get down (4) keep

14. Why did Mahatma Gandhi put himself down in the English team? Because:

- (1) he had nothing against the British
(2) he had nothing against the British government
(3) he had nothing against the British common people
(4) none of the above

15. Author's younger sister Laxmi has given him the autograph book for:

- (1) writing down scores
(2) listing down the team members
(3) getting autographs of visiting players
(4) getting autograph of Mahatma Gandhi

Directions (Q. nos. 16 and 17):

The following five sentences come from a single paragraph. The first and the last sentences are given

Choose the right order in which the sentences (P, Q, R) should appear to complete the paragraph:

16. S1: One day I decided to make my favourite sandwich

S2:

S3:

S4:

S5: I then sprinkled pepper and ate my sandwich with relish.

P: Then I toasted the bread and put some mayo, tomatoes and lettuce on it.

Q: First I washed tomatoes and the lettuce and chopped them.

R: So I went to the kitchen and gathered all the things needed on the counter.

Option:

- (1) PQR (2) PRO (3) RQP (4) RPQ

17. S1: The alarm goes off and I hit snooze and go back to bed.

S2:

S3:

S4:

S5: When I finally get ready, I realise I have no time for breakfast and have to leave without it P:

Then it goes off again and I snooze it again and go to bed.

Q. Finally I realise I have very less time to get up and get ready.

R. It goes off the third time and once more I snooze it.

Option:

- (1) PRQ (2) RQP (3) QPR (4) RPQ

Directions (Q. Nos. 18 and 19):

The following questions have the second sentence missing. Choose the appropriate sentence from the given option to complete it. The second sentence should link the first and last sentences.

18. A: My greatest strength is my exceptional teachers.

B:

C: It was due to this that I am able to think creatively.

(1) I read a lot of books

(2) They have given me the liberty to think individually and learn by experimentation.

(3) I have always liked to go to school and enjoyed learning.

(4) I have successfully cleared many competition exams.

19. A: On a hot summer afternoon, two friends walked a few miles

B:

C: They wanted to stop and get some water.

(1) They became thirsty after walking in the hot sun.

(2) They had to reach on time to catch a bus

(3) They had their school bags in their hands

(4) They saw some big, shady trees on the way.

Directions (Q. Nos 20 to 29):

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate options from the given alternatives:

20. I don't expect him to change his mind because I know he is very

(1) patient (2) hardworking

(3) abstinate (4) obstinate

21. Our teacher is a person. She easily captivates the attention of the students.

(1) lethargic (2) dynamic

(3) ionic (4) uninteresting

22. My father gets very angry with us whenever we make a mistake. He has no for mistakes.

(1) tolerance (2) impatience

(3) solution (4) tolerate

23. Teachers like students who never break rules.

(1) mischievous (2) studios

(3) stubborn (4) obedient

24. We didn't see the meteor shower due to weather condition.

- (1) hot (2) cold
(3) unfavourable (4) favourable

25. He is wet. He of the sea.

- (1) has just come out (2) just comes out
(3) had just come out (4) was just coming out

26. Raman can speak TeluguMarathi and English

- (1) besides (2) with
(3) besides (4) alongside

27. People will catch the thief.....?

- (1) will not they (2) will they
(3) won't they (4) don't they

28. If it snows this weekend, weskiing.

- (1) go (2) will go
(3) could going (4) are going

29.you like buy jewellery or a dress?

- (1) Can (2) Could
(3) Will (4) Would

Directions (O. Nos. 30 to 35):

Select the correct meaning of the underlined phrases or idioms:

30. The sailor found himself between the devil and deep sea.

- (1) lost in the deep ocean
(2) facing two challenges
(3) facing two equally bad alternatives
(4) confronting two opportunities

31. Our school is within a stone's throw of the railway stations.

- (1) within a certain radius (2) at a short distance (3) within a definite circumference (4) very far off

32. He did me a good turn by recommending me for the post of Vice-Principal.

- (1) becomes suddenly good
(2) improved my prospects
(3) did an act of kindness
(4) returned my kindness

33. On should not indulge in tall talk.

- (1) flattery (2) boasting
(3) ideal talk (4) irrelevant talk

34. He is always picking holes in all the projects.

- (1) asking irrelevant questions
(2) suggesting improvements
(3) finding faults
(4) creating problems

35. He does not like to be friendly with Sarita, he always gives her a cold shoulder.

- (1) tries to be unfriendly by not taking notice of her
(2) argues with her
(3) insults her
(4) creates trouble for her

Directions (Q. Nos. 36 to 43):

In the following passage there are some numbered blanks. Fill in the blanks by selecting the most appropriate word for each blank from the given option:

The earth is one of the known planets that circles the sun. In (36) time, the men who studied the (37) noticed that while certain heavenly (38)seemed fixed in the sky, other seemed to (39) about. The latter they named planets or wanderers. (40) astronomers have discovered that the four planets Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are surrounded by poisonous gases and are so (41) that they living thing attempting to (42)on them should instantly frozen. Of the live remaining planets, Venus closely (43)the earth in size.

36. (1) past (2) antique (3) ancient (4) modern

37. (1) light (2) stars (3) earth (4) sun

38. (1) bodies (2) objects (3) things (4) entities

39. (1) jump (2) roam (3) run (4) move

40. (1) upstart (2) future (3) modern (4) new

41. (1) cold (2) lukewarm (3) dull (4) frigid

42. (1) squat (2) land (3) walk (4) stay

43. (1) imitates (2) negates

(3) resembles (4) indentify

Directions (Q. Nos. 44 to 47):

Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blanks from the given options.

44. When will you hand your assignment

- (1) into (2) back (3) down (4) in

45. Thewere arrested for illegally hunting the bears

- (1) poaches (2) rangers
(3) soldiers (4) roachers

46. My sister upset the kettle of boiling water and her right hand badly

- (1) scorched (2) scalded
(3) sizzled (4) wounded

47. She made her stepson herto a large fortune.

- (1) hare (2) heir (3) hair (4) here

Directions (O. Nos. 48 to 50):

Choose the antonym of the underlined word from the four alternatives given:

48. Knowledge is the elixir of life

- (1) ignorance (2) cleverness
(3) intelligence (4) illiteracy

49. A deficit budget is harmful for the nation's economy.

- (1) profit (2) bonus
(3) benefit (4) surplus

50. The adventurous young man enjoyed bungee Jumping.

- (1) fearless (2) fearful
(3) dangerous (4) careless