

NEB - GRADE XII
2079 (2022)

Compulsory English

New course

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable. The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Time: 3 hrs.

Full Marks: 75

Attempt all the questions

1. Read the following text and complete the tasks that follow.

Call it a blessing or a curse of Mother Nature, we have to breathe in over 10,000 litres of air in a day (more than four million litres in a year) to remain alive. By making it **essential** for life, God has wished that we try to keep the air we breathe clean. Everyone can see the food that is not clean and perhaps refrain from eating it, but one cannot stop breathing even if one can feel the air to be polluted.

Several harmful and noxious substances can contaminate the air we breathe. Generally, much is said and written about outdoor air pollution, most of which is due to vehicular and industrial exhausts.

Given the fact that most of us spend over 90% of our time indoors, it is most important to recognise that the air we breathe in at home or in offices can be polluted. It can be a cause of ill-health. Air pollutants that are generally present in very low concentrations can assume significance in closed ill-ventilated places.

The indoor air pollution can lead to allergic reactions and cause irritation to the skin, the eyes and the nose. But as is logical to assume, the brunt of insult by pollutants is borne by the lungs. It can lead to the development of fresh breathing problems, especially in those who have allergic tendencies, or it can worsen the existing respiratory illnesses like asthma and bronchitis.

There can be several sources of indoor air pollution. Tobacco smoke is one of the most important air pollutants in closed places. "Passive smoking" or environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) pollution can lead to all the harmful effects of tobacco smoking seen in the smokers in their non-smoking **companions**. ETS as a health hazard has been **unequivocally** proven and is also getting social recognition now. One can occasionally see signs displaying the all-important message: "Your smoking is injurious to my health"

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in offices and homes. The children of smoking parents are among the worst affected persons.

The exposure of young children to ETS leads to increased respiratory problems and hospital admissions as compared to non-exposed children. Several studies, including those done at the PGI, have shown an increased risk of lung cancer among women exposed to passive smoking. ETS also worsens the existing lung diseases like asthma and bronchitis. It may be responsible for the development of asthma in children.

The next most important source of indoor air pollution is the allergens. House dust mites (HDM) are very small insects not visible to the naked eye and are the commonest source of allergy in the house. They are **ubiquitous** and thrive in a warm and moist atmosphere. They breed very fast and very difficult to **eradicate**. Modern houses present ample breeding spaces for them in the form of carpets, curtains, mattresses, pillows, etc.

Exposure to HDM can be **prevented** by the frequent washing of linen and by encasing the mattresses and pillows in a non-permeable cover. Pets form an important part of life for some of us. But they can add plenty of allergens to our indoor atmosphere. Cats are notorious for doing this.

- A. Fill in the gaps with suitable information from the text above. 5x1=5
- If a person knows that the food is not edible, s/he will eating it.
 - Indoor pollution may cause fresh breathing problems as well as it can the existing ones.
 - According to the text, is the major contributor of in-house air pollution.
 - ETS stands for
 - House dust mites are not to the naked eyes.
- B. Rewrite the given sentences substituting the words in the bold face with that of the bold faced words from the text. 5x1=5
- Computers have become an **indispensable** part of human life.
 - The Prime Minister called his **colleagues** to talk about the price hike.
 - The markets are **unambiguously** showing the bad signs of state economy.
 - The government has planned to **abolish** poverty by 2025.
 - Those bars **stopped** many animals from entering the garden.
- C. Answer these questions. 5x1=5
- How much air is needed for a person to breathe annually ?
 - What, according to the text, are the major pollutants of outdoor air ?
 - Do you think it is always safe for breathing inside your house ? Why ?
 - Are modern houses safe from house dust mites ? Why ?

- e. Do you think keeping dogs and cats inside your house is safe ? Why ? Why not ?
2. Write short answers to the following questions. 5x2=10
- Why did the young man begin to weep at the end of the story ?
(*Neighbours*)
 - How did Evan and Hooker know about the treasure ?
(*The Treasure in the Forest*)
 - Who are the people 'who travel the meridian line' ? (*The Awakening Age*)
 - What are the universal human abilities according to Harari ? (*Humility*)
 - Why did Monsieur Durand sell his life insurance ? (*Facing Death*)
3. Write long answers to the following questions. 2x5=10
- Discuss the six dimensions of normative marriage in America.
(*Marriage as a Social Institution*)
 - Is 'The Bull' a satire against the feudal system of the Rana period ? How ? Justify your answer.
4. Write a news story with the help of the given clues :— 7
- Nepal beat Oman by 39 runs*
- Kathmandu, February 10
 - First match of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup Qualifier
 - Held in Al Amarat Cricket Ground
 - Oman won the toss and choose to bowl
 - Total 117 runs' score to chase for Oman
 - Kushal Bhurtel of Nepal scored a half century off 42 balls
 - Oman all out only at 78 runs in the 17th over.
5. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper complaining about the massive deforestation in your locality. 8
6. Garbage management in many big cities in Nepal has been a serious issue. Write an essay in about 300 words on 'Garbage Management in Nepal'. 10
7. Do as instructed in the brackets and rewrite the following sentences. 10x1=10
- Drive or else you might have an accident. (Complete the sentence with a suitable adverb.)
 - Neither the tracksuit nor the pajamas (fit) me. (Put the correct form of the verb given in the bracket.)
 - She is suspected (at/of/in/to) stealing money. (Choose the correct preposition to complete the sentence.)
 - These tasks are very important. You (will/can/can't/must) finish them

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by tomorrow. (Choose the correct modal verb.)

- e) He good breakfast before he set out. (Write the suitable form of the verb 'have' in the blank.)
- f) My father is fond of (garden/gardening/ to garden). He keeps himself busy caring the flowers in the garden. (Choose the correct word to complete the sentence.)
- g) She worked hard. She didn't pass her exam. (Join these sentences with 'although'.
- h) He is the consultant(whose/who/which) advice I rely on. (Choose the correct relative pronoun.)
- i) Did they confess the crime ? (Change into passive voice.)
- j) Please, help the poor. (Report the sentence; beginning with: He requested.....)

8. Choose and copy the correct alternatives

5x1=5

- a) Which of the following words has the same initial sound as in the word 'cosmopolitan' ?
 - (i) chimney (ii) caretaker (iii) citrus (iv) cinematography
- b) The guest have brought a beautiful present for my sister. The word 'present' in the sentence is:
 - (i) noun (ii) verb (iii) adverb (iv) adjective
- c) Which of the following words comes between 'rectify' and 'redial' in the dictionary entry ?
 - i) rectangle (ii) reconsider (iii) referee (iv) redeem
- d) Which of the following suffixes goes with the word 'colloquial' to produce a new word ?
 - i) -hood (ii) -ic (iii) -y (iv) -ion
- e) It's lovely watching my children
 - i) grew up (ii) grow up
 - (iii) grows up (iv) grown up