

# HIMACHAL PRADESH BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION



## DHARAMSHALA

### MODEL QUESTION PAPERS Plus Two Examination

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## ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Max. Marks 85

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable. Marks allotted to each question are indicated against it.

*Special Instructions :-*

1. You must write Question Paper Series in the circle at top left side of title page of your Answer-book.
2. While answering your questions, you must indicate on your Answer-book the same question No. as appears in your question paper.
3. Do not leave blank page / pages in your Answer-book.
4. This paper is divided into three sections A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.
5. Do not exceed word limit wherever prescribed while answering the questions.

### Section-A

Q1. Read the passages given below and answer the questions that follow :

- (i) In today's fiercely competitive business environment, companies need to communicate information pertaining to a whole range of issues in a lucid and precise manner to their customers.
- (ii) This is particularly so in the case of companies which do business in areas such as manufacturing, information technology (IT), engineering products and services — companies whose product and services may not be understood by a customer not familiar with its technical aspects.
- (iii) These communication materials are prepared in a company these days by 'technical writers — people who can effectively communicate to an intended audience.
- (iv) The skills of a technical writer are being increasingly sought for preparing marketing documents such as brochures, case studies, website content and media kit and for the preparation of a whole range of manuals. Though technical writers in a company do a good portion of such work, the trend now is to outsource technical writing to free-lancers.
- (v) Technical writing and writing text-books are poles apart. The former is aimed at those who do not have an in-depth knowledge about a product and hence should be direct and lucid. An overdose of technical terms and jargon would only add to the confusion of the customer.

- (vi) The basic requirement for being a technical writer is near total mastery over English language. A technical writer should be natural in creative writing and needs to be an expert in using Business English.
- (vii) This simply means that those with a Bachelor's degree in English Literature alongwith a diploma / degree in Journalism and having a Post-Graduate Diploma in Computer Application (PGDCA) are being employed as technical writers.
- (viii) According to Joe Winston, Chief Executive Officer of 'I Manager', speaking ability is not imperative for a technical writer. All that one needs is the talent to write in a simple and effective manner. Many have inhibition in speaking English but not their writing skills would be very sharp.
- (ix) Technical writing would be a good option for such people. If a candidate is to be assigned the task of preparing high-end technical manuals, he /she is required to have higher qualifications such as an M.A./M.Phil. in English Literature and a degree such as M.C.A.
- (x) Companies look for such qualifications because technical writer first need to understand the technical information themselves, before trying to communicate it in de-jargonised language to the potential customers.
- (xi) However, it is also true that many companies provide rigorous on the job-training to fresh technical writers before allowing them to graduate to high-end products.
- (xii) Though the demand for good technical writers has risen sharply over the years, the emphasis is never on numbers but on skills.
- (xiii) Merely having the right mix of writing and comprehension skills is not sufficient. A technical writer should keep his 'writing blades' constantly sharpened. It means untold hours of reading up the latest in the technological trends and ceaseless honing of one's Business English and writing skills. The nature of technical writing is such that a writer has to be at the peak of his expressive powers in each piece of writing he produces.
- (xiv) A career in technical writing is seen as a good choice for women mainly because it is widely held that women are more adept at creative writing than men and the job does not entail 'graveyard shifts' or 'arduous travelling'.
- (xv) A beginner can expect to be paid anywhere between Rs. 15,000/- a month. Technical writers usually join as executive technical writers and then go on to become senior technical writers, team leaders, documentation heads and some even manage to make it to a management job within a decade. As in most private sector jobs, merit is the main criterion for rise in jobs and not necessarily the number of years one has put in.

Questions :-

(a) Answer the following questions briefly :

(i) What is the need of technical writing in today's world ?

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- (ii) What is the nature of the job of a technical writer ? 1
- (iii) Whom does the technical writing aim at ? 1
- (iv) According to Joe Winston, who could be a technical writer ? 1
- (v) What should be the academic qualification of a technical writer ? 1
- (vi) Is technical writing a good career for women ? Give two reasons. 2
- (b) Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following :
- (i) Clear (Para 1)
- (ii) Continuous / without stopping (Para 13)
- (iii) difficult (Para 14) (3×1=3)

Q2. Read the following passages carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Child labour has been sought in the country since the middle of the 19th century when factories first made an appearance. Since children in most industries provide the same productivity as adults, and in several cases even more, but at a far lower cost, they were soon recognised as a means to lower overheads and increase profits. However, as the industrial revolution progressed, gradually the people became aware of the torture they were subjecting their children to — both mentally and physically. But even as the country continued to progress at various levels, it lagged behind in terms of the wherewithal and prosperity needed to take care of new social relations which had sprung up. With the result that wages for workers were abysmally low and it was difficult for a family to survive on one man's wages. This is when human resources became the only true assets families had and every pair of working hands, including those of children, was engaged in earning a livelihood.

And once child labour had made an appearance in the job market, employers soon began to prefer working children to working adults, for not only could they give the same output as an adult worker at a much lower cost but were also more nimble and agile and more amenable to discipline. Today, child labour has become a vested interest for studies have revealed that child labour intensive areas are also high adult unemployment zone. So it is not as if adult workers are not available. They are available, only the employers prefer children because their high profits depend largely on child labour.

However, it would be unfair to categorise child labour as purely a medium of exploitation abject poverty existing in the country has made it a necessary evil gravitated by the economic compulsions of the parents or guardians. A study conducted revealed that 87% of the children in villages are forced to work out the economic necessity while another conducted on the urban child labour force disclosed that 88% of the children came to work due to poverty, 3% due to neglect parents, 5% due to sudden death of parents and 4% due to parental compulsions.

It is indeed lamentable that poverty even compels parents and guardians to barter their children for money. A number of young children are sold by their parents or pledged as bonded labour.

- (i) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make note on it, using recognizable abbreviations where necessary. Make use of a suitable format. Suggest a suitable title to the given passage. (4)
- (ii) Write a summary of the passage. (3)

### Section-B

- Q3. You are the general manager Brakes and Brakes (India) Ltd. You want to appoint two sales representatives for your company. Give an advertisement to be published in the classified columns of a local daily. (Word limit : 50 words)

Or

You have been successful in I.I.T. Entrance Examination. Write a suitable invitation for your friends inviting them to a get together to celebrate the occasion at your home. (5)

- Q4. You are Sanchit / Shristi. The World Book Fair which lasted for a month in your city was the hot topic of all book lovers. Write a report on it in about 125 words for publication in a newspaper.

Or

"Each one plant one" campaign was organised by your school to celebrate Van Mahotsava Day on 10th Nov. As Secretary of your school ABC, write a report in 100-125 words for your school magazine. You are Sunil/ Sunita. (8)

- Q5. Write a letter to the Police Commissioner, Jaipur complaining about bad law and order situation in your area.

Or

Write a letter to the Editor of 'The Tribune', Chandigarh about the undesirability of primary school children carrying heavy school bags. Also suggest ways to reduce the load. You are Gita / Govind of Chandigarh. (Word limit : 150 words) (8)

- Q6. You are Manoj / Meena. Write an article in 150/200 words, your experience of going to school when suddenly it started raining heavily.

Or

You are Kamal / Kamla. Mobile phones have become a necessity and are seen in the hands of the young and the old alike. Write an article on this, highlighting the crucial role of the mobile phones by way of communication and in promoting business and economy. Also point out the difficulties and dangers in using mobile phones while driving. (8)

### Section-C

Q7. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow :-

Far far from gusty wanes these children's faces,  
 Like rootless weeds, the hair torn round their pallor;  
 The tall girl with her weighed-down head. The Paper  
 seeming boy, with rat's eyes. The stunted, unlucky heir  
 Of twisted bones, reciting a father's gnarled disease,  
 His lesson, from his desk. At back of the dim class  
 One unnoted, sweet and young. His eyes live in a dream,  
 Of squirrel's game, in tree room, other than this.

- (i) Name the poem and the poet.
- (ii) Who are being described in these lines ?
- (iii) Where are the children sitting ?
- (iv) Explain "weighed-down head".

Or

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.

- (i) Name the poem and the poet.
- (ii) What can earth teach us ? How ?
- (iii) What does the poet want us to do while he counts up to twelve ?
- (iv) What harmful activities of man has the poet referred to in this poem ? (4)

Q8. Answer the following questions in about 30 words each : (Any three)

- (i) What is the 'sadness' that the poet refers to in the poem 'Keeping Quiet' ?
- (ii) What pleasure does a beautiful thing give us ?
- (iii) Have you ever stopped at a road-side stand ? What have you observed there?
- (iv) How do 'denizens' and 'chivalric' add to our understanding of the tiger's attitudes ? (3×2=6)

Q9. Answer the following questions : (Upto 30 words)

- (i) What did the French teacher M. Hamel say about the language ?
- (ii) What could be some of the reason for the migration of people from villages to cities?
- (iii) Why do you think Gandhi considered the Champaran episode to be a turning-point of his life ?
- (iv) What is the reason for the huge success of the novel "The Name of the Rose"? (4×2=8)

Q10. Answer the following questions in about (125-150) words :

'Sophie's dreams and disappointments are all in her mind". Discuss.

Or

What are the instances in the story that show that characters of the iron master is different from that of his daughter in many ways ? (8)

Q11. Answer the following questions in about 125-150 words :

Why is Antarctica the place to go to, to understand the earth's present, past and future ?

Or

Dr. Sadao was compelled by his duty as a doctor to help the enemy soldier. What made Hana, his wife sympathetic to him in the face of open defiance from the domestic staff? (5)

Q12. Answer the following questions :

(i) How did the narrator get lost and reach the third level ?

(ii) Who is the tiger King ?

(iii) Why does Jack insist that it was the wizard that was hit and not the mother ?

(iv) Who is Mr. Lamb ? How does Derry get into his garden ? (4×2=8)