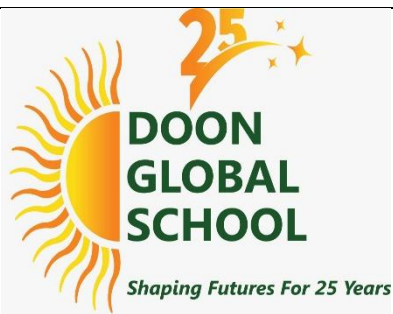




DOON GLOBAL SCHOOL
HALF -YEARLY EXAMINATION (2024-25)
CLASS - X
SUBJECT- ENGLISH (301)

TIME – 3 Hour

Max. Marks- 80

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Read the following questions very carefully and strictly follow them.

- **This question paper has 13 questions. All questions are compulsory.**
- **This question paper contains three sections.**
- **Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.**
- **Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.**
- **Separate instructions are given with each question/ part, wherever necessary.**

SECTION-A: READING SKILLS

1. Read the passage given below.

1. Milkha Singh, also known as The Flying Sikh, was an Indian track and field sprinter who was introduced to the sport while serving in the Indian Army. He is the only athlete to win gold in 400 meters at the Asian games as well as the Commonwealth games. He also won gold medals in the 1958 and 1968 Asian games. He represented India in the 1956 Summer Olympics in Melbourne, the 1960 Summer Olympics in Rome and the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo. He was awarded the Padma Shri, India's fourth-highest civilian honor' in recognition of his sporting achievements.

2. The race for which Singh is best remembered is his fourth-place finish in the 400 meters final at the 1960 Olympic games. He led the race till the 200m mark before easing off, allowing others to pass him. Singh's fourth-place time of 45.73 seconds was the Indian national record for almost 40 years.

3. From beginning that saw him orphaned and displaced during the partition of India, Singh became a sporting icon in the country. In 2008, journalist Rohit Brijnath described Singh as "the finest athlete India has ever produced".

4. He was disappointed with his debut performance at the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. "I returned to India, chastened by my poor performance in Melbourne. I had been so excited by the prospects of being part of the Indian Olympics team but hadn't realized how strong and professional the competition would be. My success in India had filled me with a false sense of pride and it was only when I was on the track that I saw how inconsequential my talents were when pitted against superbly fit and seasoned athletes. It was then that I understood what competition actually meant, and that if I wanted to succeed on the international arena, I must be prepared to test my mettle against the best athletes in the world".

5. Then he decided to make sprinting the sole focus of his life.

"Running had thus become my God, my religion and my beloved".

"My life during those two years was governed by strict rules and regulations and a self-imposed penance. Every morning, I would rise at the crack of dawn, get into my sports kit and dash off to the track, where I would run two or three miles cross-country in the company of my coach.

6. On how he pushed himself through tough days of vigorous training. "I practiced so strenuously that often I was drained of all energy, and there were times when I would vomit blood or drop-down unconscious through sheer exercise. My doctors and coaches warned me, asked me to slow down to maintain my health and

equilibrium but my determination was too strong to give up. My only focus was to become the best athlete in the world. But then images of a packed stadium filled with cheering spectators, wildly applauding me as I crossed the finishing line, would flash across my mind and I would start again, encouraged by visions of victory”.

1. Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions. (1x10=10)

1. What is Milkha Singh known as? What realization did Milkha Singh have when he was on the track during the Melbourne Olympics? (1)
2. He was awarded which of the following Indian civilian honors in recognition of his sporting achievements?
(a) Padma Shri (b) Padma Vibhushan (c) Padma Bhushan (d) Bharat Ratna (1)
3. Fill in the blank.
Milkha Singh would wake up _____ every day to practice sprinting. (1)
4. Choose a word from the passage which means the same as ‘stability’. (1)
5. What strict rules and regulations did Milkha Singh follow? (2)
6. Explain the phrase ‘I would start again’ in the last sentence in about 40 words. (2)
7. What did Milkha decide after the Melbourne Olympics? (1)
(a) To quit the competition
(b) To train his son
(c) To make sprinting the sole focus of his life
(d) To make athletics the sole focus of his life
8. State two consequences of his hard and strenuous practice. (1)

2. Read the passage given below carefully. (10)

Read the following excerpt from a Case Study. J.K. Rowling- A Journey The story of Joanne Kathleen Rowling’s near magical rise to fame is almost as well known as the Characters She Creates.

Rowling was constantly writing and telling stories to her younger sister Dianne. “The first story I ever wrote down was about a rabbit called Rabbit.” Rowling said in an interview, “He got the measles and was visited by his friends including a giant bee called Miss Bee, and ever since Rabbit and Miss Bee, I have always wanted to be a writer, though I rarely told anyone so.”

However, my parents, both of whom come from impoverished backgrounds and neither of whom had been to college, took the view that my overactive imagination was an amusing personal quirk that would never pay a mortgage or secure a pension art.

A writer from the age of six, with two unpublished novels from the drawer, was stuck on a train when Harry walked into her mind fully formed. She spent the next five years constructing the plot of seven books, one for every year of his secondary school life.

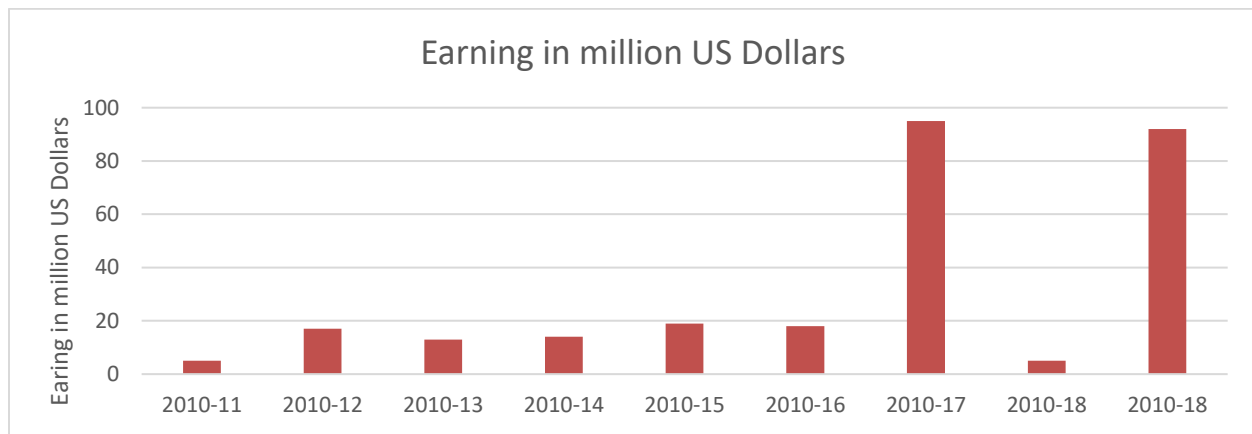
Rowling says she started writing the first book, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone, in Portugal, where she was teaching English.

At first nobody wanted to publish Harry Potter. She was told that the plot was too complex. Refusing to compromise, she found a publisher.

In 1997 Rowling received her first royalty cheque. By book three she has skyrocketed to the top of the publishing world. A row of zeroes appeared on the author’s bank balance and her life was turned upside down. Day and night she had journalists knocking on the unanswered door of her flat.

Rowling’s quality control has become legendary, as her obsession with accuracy. She’s thrilled with Stephen Fry’s taped version of the books and outraged that an Italian dust jacket showed Harry minus his glasses. “Don’t they understand that the glasses are the clue to his vulnerability.”

Annual earnings of J.K. Rowling from 2010 to 2019.



On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions.

1. Harry's glasses are important because_____. (1)
2. Fill in the blank.
Rowling was_____ (in a train / 6 years old) when the idea of Harry Potter book came to her mind. (1)
3. What was the drawback of achieving fame? (2)
4. Why was Rowling outraged with the Italian dust jacket? (2)
5. According to the graph, how many years did it take Rowling to become very successful? (1)
6. What was Rowling's profession when she wrote the first Harry Potter book? (1)
(a) Writer (b) Editor (c) Publisher (d) Teacher
7. What was the reaction of Rowling's parents to her work? (1)
8. What does the passage tell us about Rowling's parents? (1)
(a) They were dead (b) They were very rich (c) They were very poor (d) They wanted her to become a writer.

SECTION- B: WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR

GRAMMAR

3. Complete **ANY TEN** of the following tasks, as directed. (1x10= 10)
 - (i) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. *You should _____ to your mother for your rude behavior.* (1)
(a) apologize for (b) apologize at (c) apologize with (d) apologize to
 - (ii) Read the conversation between a customer and a waiter. Complete the sentence by reporting the waiter's reply correctly. (1)
Customer: Waiter, come here. The plate is dirty.
Waiter: I'll change it sir.
The customer asked the waiter to come there. He pointed out that the plate was dirty. The waiter politely offered _____ .
 - (iii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line. (1)
Twenty years ago, kids at school had never even heard of the internet.

Option	Error	Correction
A	at	in
B	school	schools
C	had	have
D	the	an

(iv) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the concluding line of an issued circular by an organization, to its managers. (1)

A copy of the plan is enclosed and _____ (that/then/this) may be communicated to all team leaders for compliance.

(v) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of the letter. (1)

Respected Sir/Ma'am

I am Drishya, a member of NGO Prada. I _____ (write) to you to bring to your notice the increasing effect of air pollution in our neighborhood and in the surrounding area.

(vi) Complete the given narrative by filling in the blank with the correct option. (1)

He _____ down the road, towards the harbor and the dead end, the industrial buildings laid low by the unexpected weight of late summer Sun.

(a) looked (b) looking (c) looks (d) was looking

(vii) Identify the error in the following sentence. (1)

Behind every success film there is a lengthy creative process.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

(viii) Select the correct option to complete the correct narration of the dialogue given below. (1)

Raj: I have invited my friends for dinner.

Wife: I'll invite my friends too.

Raj: told his wife that he had invited his friends for dinner. The wife added that _____

(a) she will invite her friends too (b) she would invite her friends too

(c) she can invite her friends too (d) she could invite her friends too

(ix) Identify the error in the statement given below. (1)

The level of begging is very common into our country.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

(x) Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from a health article. Americans _____ get the new Omicron-specific COVID-19 vaccine before Halloween to boost their immunity levels ahead of potential infection surge this winter. (1)

(a) should (b) must (c) ought (d) will

(xi) Report the following sentence. (1)

My mother often says to me, "Honesty is the best policy."

(xii) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of the letter. (1)

Subject Request for approval

Dear Mr. Green

I am _____ (send) this request for your approval of our marketing proposal for our next project. The team and I have created a detailed plan that I've attached to this e-mail.

WRITING (10)

Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose. (5)

4. A. You are Shivam/ Shivani of C-12 Janakpuri, Indore. You wish to make a pilgrimage to Badrinath, Kedarnath and Haridwar with your family of six. Write a letter to R.K. Travels, enquiring about the schedule of

their conducted tour by Deluxe buses to these places. Ask about the charges, boarding and lodging arrangements and the total time needed for the tour. (Word limit 120 words)

OR

B. You are the head of the Physical education Department of St. Jesus and Mary School, Agra. You ordered some sports goods for the department but you received some defective goods. Write a letter to the Manager of Student Sports Enterprises, agra to complain regarding this.

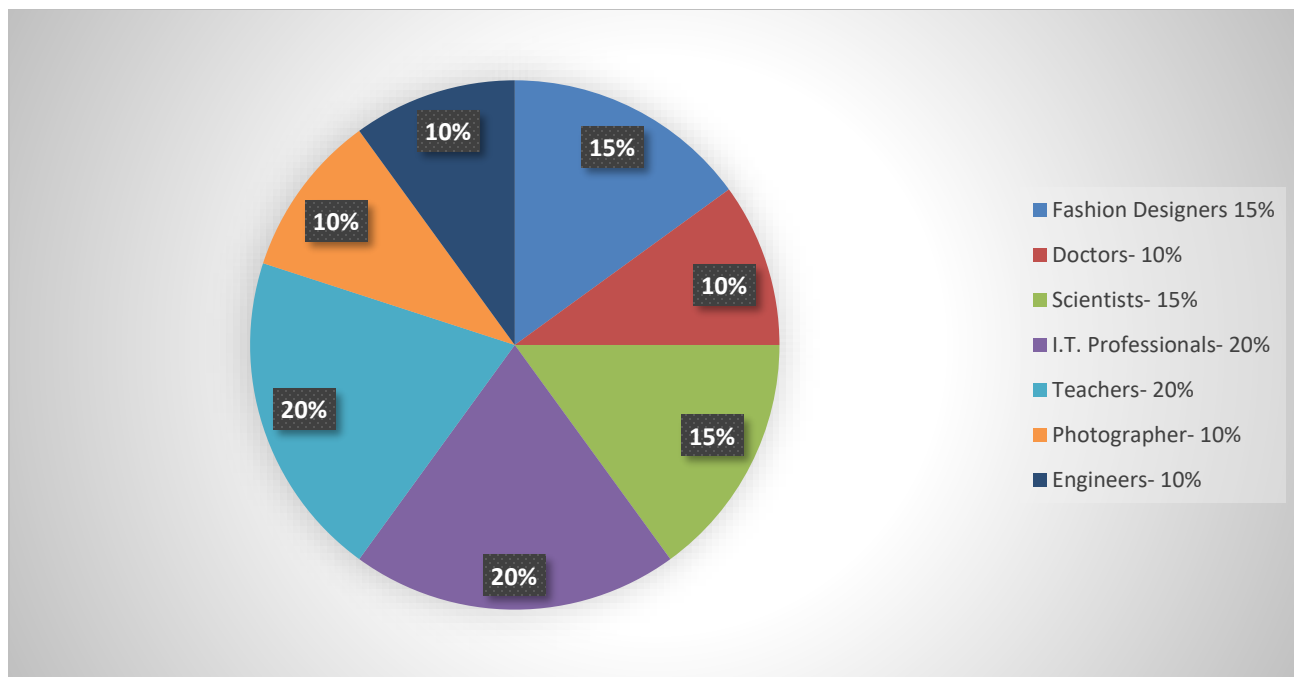
5.A. The table illustrates the proportion of monthly household income five European countries spend on food and drink, housing, clothing and entertainment. Using the given data, write an analytical paragraph in 100-120 words.

Proportion of household income of five European countries spend on food, drink, housing, clothing and entertainment (5)

	Food and Drink	Housing	Clothing	Entertainment
France	25%	31%	7%	13%
Germany	22%	33%	15%	19%
UK	27%	37%	12%	11%
Turkey	36%	20%	11%	12%
Spain	31%	18%	8%	15%

OR

B. In an exclusive survey conducted by a leading daily, students of Class X expressed their job preferences. Based on the information given in the pie-chart, write a paragraph analyzing the careers they want to pursue after school in about 100-120 words. (5)



SECTION-C: LITERATURE

TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT

(40Marks)

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two given.

(1x5=5)

A. “ It was only when I began to learn that my boyhood freedom was an illusion, when I discovered as a young man that my freedom had already been taken from me, that I began to hunger for it. At first as a student, I wanted freedom only for myself, the transitory freedoms of being able to stay out at night, read what I pleased

and go where I chose. Later, as a young man in Johannesburg, I yearned for the basic and honorable freedoms....”

(Nelson Mandela: A Long Walk to Freedom)

- (i) The title that best suit this extract is
(a) Freedom for Everything (b) Knowledge about Freedom (c) Significance of Freedom
(d) Realization of Freedom (1)
- (ii) Choose the option that best fits the usage of the word ‘illusion’ as used in the extract. (1)
(a) He was never able to get past the illusion.
(b) The illusion I experienced was quite intriguing.
(c) A large mirror in the room creates an illusion. (d) I was living under the illusion that this is possible.
- (iii) A part of the extract has been paraphrased. Choose the option that includes the most appropriate solution to the blanks in the given paraphrase of the extract. (1)
The speaker’s belief about freedom, since childhood, proved false. It was not until the speaker grew up to be a young man when it
(i)..... on him that he was
(ii) of freedom. Then he began
(iii) It.
(a) (i) desired (ii) dawned (iii) depriving
(b) (i) dawned (ii) deprived (iii) desiring
(c) (i) dawned (ii) arrived (iii) desiring
- (iv) Why do you think the speaker mentioned some freedoms as ‘transitory’? (1)
- (v) The speaker says, ‘at first as a student I wanted freedom only for myself.’ What did the speaker mean by this statement? (1)

OR

B. I started right away at the Montessori nursery school. I stayed there until I was six, at which time I started in the first form. In the sixth form my teacher was Mr. Kuperus, the headmistress. At the end of the year, we were both in tears as we said a heartbreaking farewell.

In the summer of 1941 grandma fell ill and had to have an operation, so my birthday passed with little celebration.

- (i) The narrator ‘I’ refers to (1)
(a) Mr. Keesing (b) Mrs. Kuperus (c) Anne Frank (d) Miss Margot
- (ii) What does the narrator mean by saying ‘we were both in tears?’ (1)
- (iii) The phrase ‘right away’ in this extract most nearly means (1)
(a) with delay (b) the correct way (c) immediately (d) overtaking from right
- (iv) Complete the analogy by selecting a word from the text. (1)
Dawn: dusk: : mourning:_____
- (v) Select the option that correctly captures the application of the word ‘form’ as used in the extract. (1)
(a) Raghav was in good form while playing the match
(b) Saheb was promoted to the next form after the annual exam
(c) My brother did not know how to form a circle.
(d) Anne saw the form on the headmaster’s desk

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two given. (5)

*If strolling forth, a beast you view
Whose hide with spots is peppered,
As soon as he has leapt on you,
You’ll know it’s the leopard
‘Twill do no good to roar with pain’
He’ll only lep and lep again*

- (i) One can find out that it is a leopard by the way it_____

(a) leaps (b) eats (c) looks (d) roars

(ii) State whether the following statement is true or false.

When an animal repeatedly leaps at a person, it is a leopard.

(iii) Complete the sentence appropriately

It is clear that repetition is a poetic device used for 'lep and lep again' because_____.

(Clue: Explain how repetition is applied here)

(iv) The Royal Bengal Tiger has black stripes on yellow skin whereas a leopard has _____.

(v) Complete the analogy with a word from the extract

Claws : Nails:: Skin: _____.

OR

B.

*Has given my heart
A change of mood
And saved some part
Of a day I had rued*

(i) Fill in the blank

The extract mentions that the poet's mood changes completely and _____ was saved. (1)

(ii) How has mood of the poem changed? (1)

(iii) What change made the mood feel that the day was rude? (1)

(a) Fight with roommate (b) A professional rejection (c) His illness (d) Can't say

(iv) Comment on why the poet says that he had 'saved some part of the day'? (2)

8. Answer **any four** of the following questions in 40-50 words each. (4x3=12)

(i) What are the raindrops compared to and why?

(ii) Why does Amanda wish to be a mermaid?

(iii) What tells you that Anne loved her grandmother?

(iv) According to the poet, what do Fire and Ice represent? Do you agree with him?

(v) What does Mandela refer to as an extraordinary human disaster?

9. Answer **any two** of the following questions in 40-50 words each. (2x3=6)

(i) The story A Triumph of Surgery is a powerful example of the importance of saying 'no'. Explain.

(ii) What was Fowler's perception about a secret agent.

(iii) When and why did the lady in red say 'society must be protected from men like you. Doesn't it sound ironical?

10. Answer **any one** of the following questions in 100-120 words. (1x6=6)

(i) Motivation plays an important role in taking risks in life and in succeeding. Do you agree? Discuss with reference to the pilot of the old Dakota and the young seagull.

(ii) What did Anne Frank say about her family in her diary?

11. Answer **any one** of the following questions in 100-120 words. (1x6=6)

(i) Do you think that over pampering by Mrs. Pumphrey was the main reason for Tricki's ailment? Explain.

(ii) Our sins never go unpunished. Horace Danby ultimately had to go to prison. This shows in spite of planning a crime intelligently and carefully a criminal can't escape the law. Explain.