GURUKUL INTERNATIONAL SR. SEC. SCHOOL

MODERNITY WITH TRADITION

AFFILIATED TO CBSE, NEW DELHI

PERIODIC TEST 1 (APRIL, 2023)

SUBJECT - ENGLISH

GRADE - X

TIME- 90 MINS   **MAX.MARKS: 40**

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. 15-minute prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.

2. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.

3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

4. Draw margins on the right hand side.

SECTION A-READING SKILLS (10)

I. Read the passage given below:

1. The painstaking memorisation of mathematical tables, historical dates, capitals of countries and even poems leaves an indelible mark on every adult who has attended school. However, all educators deprecate this rote system learning by orally reciting and consigning lessons to memory as mindless and mechanical, which goes against critical thinking and creativity. But is this dichotomy between creativity and rote learning part of lazy binary thinking?

2. We often hear about people who can repeat the entire telephone directory or memorise the entire dictionary. Indians have a history of highly developed systems of memorisation, perfected through centuries of Vedic learning. From a typically Western perspective, the permanency of the written word has been pitted against the 'unconscious operation of memory' of oral

cultures, and held to be more reliable in cultural transmission. However, refuting this thesis, Fritz Stall, an Indie scholar observes that the oral tradition in India is remarkable, "because it has led to scientific discoveries that are of enduring interest". Of course, this mugging up can be aural (i.e. chanting aloud) or visual—mentally storing images in a visual map.

3. The advantages of rote memorisation—like it expands areas of the mind to great possibilities—are now becoming evident to the world. Various accounts from ancient India, including those from travellers like I-tsing, point to the fool-proof system of oral memorisation and the capacity to absorb volumes of data.

4. A parallel dimension of transmission of knowledge also existed in India, with a flexible mode of oral communication through which knowledge was disseminated. One instance is the narrative-performative tradition of recitation, which extended basic story through interpolations, conscious extensions and embedding of sub-narratives. Many Indian myths, legends, epics, and fables such as Kathasaritsagara and Jataka stories were spread through this process. While the story remains the same, the interpretation changes according to who says it, where it is said and how it is said. While communicating mathematics, philosophy and other scientific disciplines, cryptic text forms were created that facilitated memorisation.

5. A related question pertains to cognition—how can we transmit principles using memorisation as a creative tool rather than as a mechanical process of repetition? Bhaskara's Lilavati, the seminal 12th century illustrates how memorisation and creativity go together.

6. The fact that Bhaskara's methods still figure in Indian pedagogic consciousness was recently brought home in a news report on the Ramanujan School of Mathematics in Patna, which trains youngsters from poor families to clear the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) entrance test.

This year, all the 30 students of the school got through IITs. Anand Kumar, the school's founder, called it the "sheer power of practice to break the so-called IIT code" and a student attributed the success to his teacher's ability to teach differential calculus through a "thrilling story of a daring robber".

Based on reading of passage answer the questions given below:

i. Why do all educators condemn rote learning ?

ii. What is the dichotomy between creativity and rote learning?

iii. Why is the oral tradition in India called remarkable?

iv. How is rote learning advantageous?

v. What does Bhaskara's Lilavati illustrate?

vi. Why were cryptic texts created for mathematics, philosophy etc?

vii. Define parallel dimension of transmission of knowledge?

viii. For what Ramanujan School of Mathematics is famous for?

ix. How Kathasarirsagara and Jataka stories spread?

x. Write the word from a passage similar in meaning to these words.

      (a)   separation (para 1)

      (b)   ascribed (para 6)

SECTION-B(Grammar and Creative Writing Skills)

III. Complete the given sentence, by filling in the blank with the correct option: **5x1=5**

i. Rohit _____ when we arrived at the party.

(a) had already left   (b) has already left

(c) have already left   (d) was already left

ii. When the third entered the house, the inmates _____ in the hall.

(a) were slept   (b) were sleeping

(c) slept   (d) had been sleeping

iii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line.

You ____ work hard if you want to get good marks.

(a) must   (b) might   (c) can   (d) should

iv. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from a newspaper.

In India, the death toll due to road accidents has increased drastically. Wider road awareness among road

users ____ be taught to all the people.

(a) ought to   (b) could   (c) should   (d) will

v. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

The boys were played in the park when it started raining.

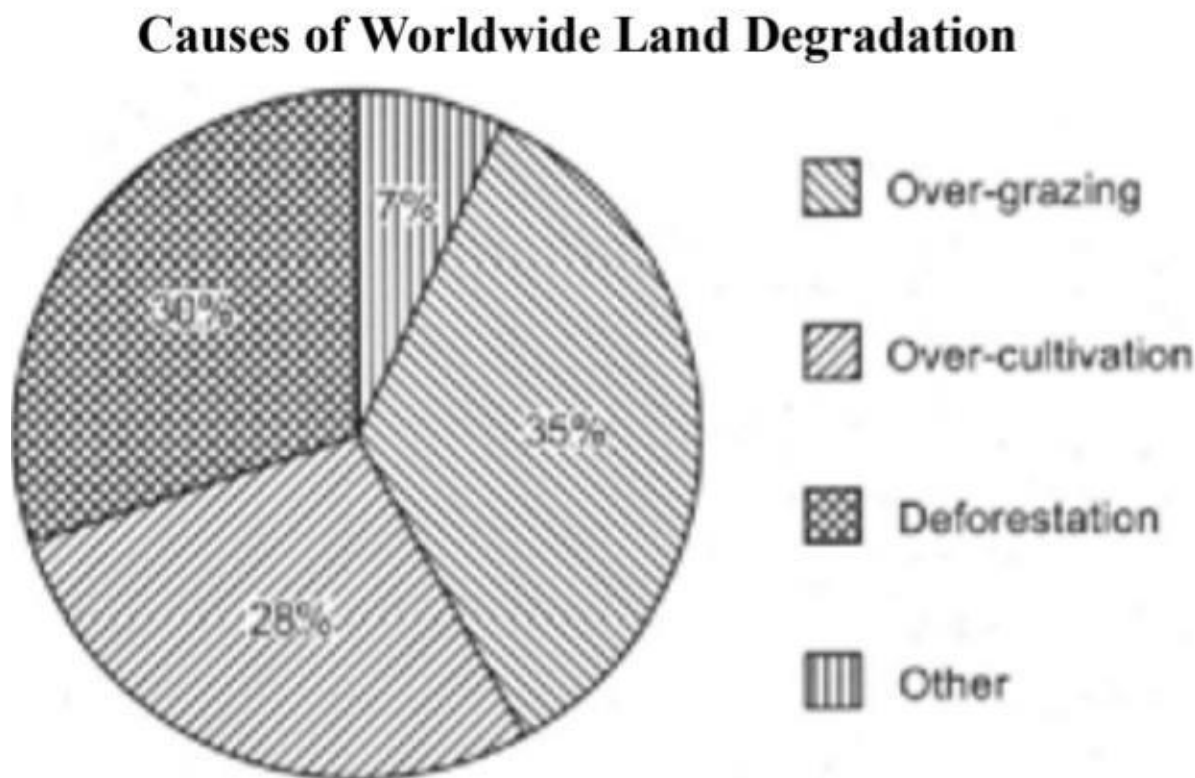Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

IV. You are Anshul/ Anshika, a student of Grade X and a resident of 36 D RinV. Road, ITO, New Delhi, wants to be a choreographer. Recently you came across an advertisement by Set Fire Dance Academy, MG Road, New Delhi, which offers various forms of dancing. Write an enquiry letter seeking information about the course and its package. (100-120 words)   **(5)**

V. The pie chart below shows the main reasons why agricultural land becomes less productive. The table given

shows how these causes affected three regions of the world during the 1990's. On the basis of the pie chart, write an analytical paragraph on 'Causes of Worldwide Land Degradation'.   **(5)**

 Causes of Worldwide Land Degradation

Causes of Worldwide Land Degradation

Over-grazing
Over-cultivation
Deforestation
Other

SECTION D (LITERATURE)-15

VI. Answer the following questions in 40-50 words.   2x5=10

1. "Now we're really going to get some water, woman." Is Lencho sure that it is going to rain? Give a reason for your answer.

2. What ideals were set by Nelson Mandela for the future of South Africa?

3. What does the expression 'stalking the length of the cage' imply?

4. What does the poet tell us about chameleons?

5. *He hears the last voice at night,*

The patrolling cars,
And stares With his brilliant eyes
At the brilliant stars.

a.   **What kind of voices does the tiger hear?**

b.   **Where does the tiger look at in the night?**

VII. Answer the following question in 100-120 words.   1x5=5

The chapter shows Hari Singh's journey from thief to an honest man who values friendship and other human values. Do you think it was Anil's selfless friendship that Hari redeemed for himself? Give reasons in support of your answers.