

CAREERS360

**NIOS 12th
ENGLISH
Question Paper
(April 2017)**

This Question Paper consists of **26** questions [Section-A (16) + Section-B (5+5)] and **11** Printed pages.

Roll No.

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Code No. **54/OSS/1**

Set

A

ENGLISH
(302)

Day and Date of Examination _____

Signature of Invigilators 1. _____

2. _____

General Instructions :

1. Candidate must write his/her Roll Number on the first page of the Question Paper.
2. Please check the Question Paper to verify that the total pages and total number of questions contained in the Question Paper are the same as those printed on the top of the first page. Also check to see that the questions are in sequential order.
3. Making any identification mark in the Answer-Book or writing Roll Number anywhere other than the specified places will lead to disqualification of the candidate.
4. Write your Question Paper Code No. **54/OSS/1-A** on the Answer-Book.



ENGLISH

(302)

Time : 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 100

- Note :**
- (i) This Question Paper consists of **two** sections, viz., 'A' and 'B'.
 - (ii) **All** the questions from Section 'A' are **compulsory**.
 - (iii) Section 'B' has **two** options. Candidates are required to attempt questions from **one** option only.
 - (iv) Marks are indicated against each question.

SECTION - A

1. Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow :

- (a) That night when Ramlal consulted his wife, she cried, "Are you crazy ? If girls go to school, who will marry them ?"

But Ramlal had not the courage to disobey the Tahsildar. At last his wife said, "I will tell you what to do. Send Bholi to school. As it is, there is little chance of her getting married, with her ugly face and lack of sense. Let the teachers at school worry about her."

- (i) What were Bholi's mother's views on educating girls ? 1
- (ii) What does mother's way of solving the problem show about her feelings for Bholi ? 1
- (iii) Why did mother say, "There is little chance of her getting married"? 1
- (iv) Which word in the passage means the same as 'not listen to someone or do as they say' ? 1

OR



Anyway Papa, do you know where I lost that quarter mark that brought about my fall ? It was a fill-in-the blanks. I held that I was invited to tea and my teacher was adamant that he was invited for tea. A matter of grammar. And Papa, if he says George Bush is the President of India, it will have to be so. If he says the sun rises in the west, so be it : and if he says the earth is flat, it will be, it will be, my Papa.

- (i) What does father's concern about his son losing a half mark show about him ? 1
 - (ii) How did the narrator lose a quarter mark ? 1
 - (iii) What is the narrator's view about his teacher ? 1
 - (iv) Which word in the passage means the same as 'unwilling to give in or listen to another person' ? 1
- (b) As the man leaned over, Doctor Benson caught his first good look at the small, cat like face.

The doctor also noticed the long deep scar on the man's cheek, bright and red - looking as though it were of recent origin. He thought of Mrs. Ott Sorly and reached for his watch. His fingers went deep into his pocket before he realized that his watch was not there.

- (i) What impression did the doctor form of the man from his face and scar sitting beside him in his car ? 1
- (ii) Pick out one expression from the passage that shows the doctor was suspicious of Evans. 1
- (iii) Why did the doctor reach for his watch ? 1
- (iv) Which word in the passage means the same as 'deep cut' ? 1

OR

The cutting curved sharply, and in the darkness the black entrance to the tunnel looked up menacingly. The signal-light was out. Baldeo set to work to haul the lamp down by its chain. If the oil had finished, he would have to return to the hut for more. The mail train was due in five minutes. Once more he fumbled for his matches. Then suddenly he stood still and listened. The frightened cry of a barking deer, followed by a crashing sound in the undergrowth, made Baldeo hurry.

- (i) Why did the tunnel look dangerous ? 1
- (ii) Why did he start bringing down the lamp ? 1
- (iii) Why did Baldeo have to hurry ? 1
- (iv) Which word in the passage means the same as, 'something that makes you think something bad is going to happen' ? 1



2. Answer **any three** of the following in about **30 to 40** words each. **2x3=6**

- (a) Describe two qualities of Gerrard that helped him to outwit the Intruder. (If I Were You)
- (b) Why was Aradhana sad after she heard aunt Pamela whisper something to her grandmother ? Why do you think she was late in coming to the stage ? (I must Know the Truth)
- (c) Why is wind energy referred to as the fuel of the future ? What are the advantages of using wind energy ? (Fuel of the Future)
- (d) What are the major tasks that Nehru faces as the Prime Minister of India ? What makes his tasks difficult to achieve ? (India-Her Past and Future)

3. Answer the following question in **60** words : **6**

How did Gavaskar's uncle save him from living as a fisherman's son ? How was this a turning point in his life ? (My First Steps)

OR

What are the aspects of ancient India that Nehru refers to with pride ? Mention any three. (India-Her Past and Future)

4. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :

No time to turn at Beauty's glance

And watch her feet, how they can dance.

No time to wait till her mouth can

Enrich the smile her eyes began.

A poor life this if full of care

We have no time to stand and stare. (Leisure)

- (a) Why does the poet say, 'no time to turn at Beauty's glance' ? **2**
- (b) Who is 'her' in line 2 ? **1**
- (c) Why does the poet call this life 'poor' ? **2**

OR



I remember the night my mother
 Was stung by a scorpion. Ten hours
 Of steady rain had driven him
 To crawl beneath a sack of rice.
 Parting with his poison-flash
 Of diabolic tail in the dark room-
 He risked the rain again

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) What happened to mother ? How did this happen ? | 2 |
| (b) Which word/s in the above lines tell you the scorpion stung mother ? | 2 |
| (c) Where did the scorpion go after stinging mother ? | 1 |

5. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

I was one of many children - a short boy with rather undistinguished looks, born to tall and handsome parents. We lived in our ancestral house, which was built in the middle of the 19th century. It was a fairly large pucca house, made of limestone and brick, on the Mosque Street in Rameswaram. My austere father used to avoid all inessential comforts and luxuries. However, all necessities were provided for, in terms of food, medicine or clothes. In fact, I would say mine was a very secure childhood, both materially and emotionally.

I normally ate with my mother, sitting on the floor of the kitchen. She would place a banana leaf before me, on which she then ladled rice and aromatic sambhar, a variety of sharp, home-made pickles and a dollop of fresh coconut chutney.

The famous Shiva temple, which made Rameswaram so sacred to pilgrims, was about a ten-minute walk from our house. Our locality was predominantly Muslim, but there were quite a few Hindu families too, living amicably with their Muslim neighbours. There was a very old mosque in our locality where my father would take me for evening prayers. When my father came out of the mosque after the prayers, people of different religions would be sitting outside, waiting for him. Many of them offered bowls of water to my father who would dip his fingertips in them and say a prayer. This water was then carried home for invalids. I also remember people visiting our home to offer thanks after being cured. My father always smiled and asked them to thank Allah, the benevolent and merciful.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (a) What kind of a person was the narrator's father ? Quote two qualities of character. | 2 |
| (b) What were the narrator's childhood experiences that would have shaped his later life ? | 2 |
| (c) Can you say that there was religious harmony in Rameswaram ? Give 2 points in support of your answer. | 2 |
| (d) Which words in the passage mean the same as - | 1+1 |
| (i) Sweet smelling | |
| (ii) In a friendly manner | |



6. Read the passage given below and complete the statements that follow :

4

Good communication requires that you should be a good listener and must also have appropriate body language.

Being a good listener is one of the best ways to be a good communicator. No one likes communicating with someone who only cares about putting in her views, and does not take the time to listen to the other person. It is therefore important to practice being an active listener. Active listening involves paying close attention to what the other person is saying, asking, clarifying questions, and rephrasing what the person says to ensure understanding.

Coming to non-verbal communication - your body language, eye contact, hand gestures, and tone are also very important in a conversation. A relaxed, open stance, and a friendly tone will make you appear approachable, and will encourage others to speak openly with you. Eye contact is also important - looking the person in the eye will demonstrate that you are focused on the person and the conversation.

Remember, however, that you should not stare at the person because this can make him or her uncomfortable.

Remember too to pay attention to other people's non-verbal signals while you are talking. Often, non-verbal signals convey how a person is really feeling. For example, if the person is not looking you in the eye, he or she might be uncomfortable or hiding the truth.

- (a) In good communication it is important to be _____(i) because people do not _____(ii) those who only talk and do not listen.
- (b) As far as body language is concerned, people will be encouraged to speak to you if you appear _____(iii). A person may not be _____(iv) if he or she is not looking straight into your eyes.

7. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

The use of cellular phones has spread like wild fire in the last ten years. A good number of people depend on them to carry out daily operations. Unfortunately, many of these daily operations occur while the individual is driving. As a result, many accidents are taking place due to the use of cellular phones while on the road.

This leads one to believe that if people can't concentrate on the road while talking on a cell phone, they shouldn't talk at all while driving. Rather than restricting access, the goal should be to provide safer means of using the cellular phone while driving. Advantages of using cell phones are that accidents get reported to the police rapidly; traffic updates occur more often, and drivers who need to be taken off the road are located quicker and easier.

It is good that today phones are being created by companies which offer a hands-free cell phone so that you can keep both hands on the wheel while driving and talking. Some of these come in the form of headsets and give the user a voice activated sequence, which allows you to talk into the speaker, and the number will instantly be dialled.



- (a) What are the problems with the use of cell phones ? 2
- (b) Which is better-restricting their use or providing safer ways of using them ? Explain with a reason. 2
- (c) Mention two advantages of the mobile phone. 2
- (d) How are latest inventions in cell phones useful ? 2

8. Read the passage given below and make a summary in about 75 to 80 words : 5

Once a rich merchant's house was robbed. The merchant suspected that the thief was one of his servants. So he went to Birbal and mentioned the incident. Birbal went to his house and assembled all of his servants and asked that who stole the merchant's things. Everybody denied.

Birbal thought for a moment, then gave a stick of equal length to all the servants of the merchant and said to them that the stick of the real thief will be longer by two inches tomorrow. All the servants should be present here again tomorrow with their sticks.

All the servants went to their homes and gathered again at the same place the next day. Birbal asked them to show him their sticks. One of the servants had his stick shorter by two inches. Birbal said, "This is your thief, merchant."

Later the merchant asked Birbal, "How did you catch him ?" Birbal said, "The thief had already cut his stick short by two inches in the night fearing that his stick will be longer by two inches by morning."

9. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with appropriate passive forms of the verbs given in the brackets : 3

Anandi wanted to get education and become a nurse. A private tutor _____(a) (arrange) for her by her parents. Special coaching _____(b) (give) to her by her college teachers after college hours. She _____(c) (encourage) and guided by her Principal too.

10. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with appropriate forms of the verbs given in the brackets : 4

I met Sushila in Mumbai in 2010. I had last _____(a) (see) her 10 years before. She still _____(b) (look) very young. She _____(c) (has) a pretty teenaged daughter with her who looked very smart. We _____(d) (are) happy to see each other after a long time.



11. Combine the following pairs of sentences using the connectors given against each pair : 4
- (a) (i) I was very unhappy.
(ii) I did not want to share my feelings with anyone. (but)
- (b) (i) Sonia is tired and hungry.
(ii) She wants to take some rest. (because)
- (c) (i) The movie is directed by Shyam Gulati.
(ii) He is an award winning director. (who)
- (d) (i) We need to work very fast.
(ii) The project has to be completed by the end of this month. (since)
12. Report the following conversation in indirect speech. 4
- Amita : I don't feel like going to school today.
Mother : Why ? Are you alright ?
Amita : I'm not feeling too well.
Mother : Oh! What happened to you ?
13. Write a paragraph of about 100 words on **any one** of the following topics : 5
- (a) My experience of applying for a job
(b) The advantages and disadvantages of mobile phones
(c) The importance of discipline in schools
14. Write a letter of complaint to the manager of a showroom in your city from whom you have purchased a new Sony TV for the college. You are Principal of Roopmati College of Arts, Ooty. 5



15. The following passage has seven mistakes of spelling and other grammatical errors. Spot the errors and provide corrections in your answer book. One has been done as an example. 6

I fell asleep while I was watch TV. My mother came into my room quitely and switched of the TV. My books were lie open. She picked them in carefully, closed them and kept they on my writing table. As she was switching off the lights I wake up.

serial no.	error	correct form
1	watch	watching
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		

16. Read the passage given below carefully. Make notes in points only, using appropriate headings and sub-headings. Also use recognizable abbreviations. 4

An important part of becoming successful is becoming disciplined. A disciplined person exhibits perseverance, tenacity, self-control and resistance to temptations and distractions.

Discipline allows one to act according to thoughts rather than feelings. A disciplined person lists personal goals and works until those goals are accomplished, despite failures and setbacks. Discipline allows one to sacrifice instant gratification in favour of long-term goals. The discipline to work hard or complete boring tasks allows one to reach goals.

Discipline is necessary to balance work and play. Discipline creates self-confidence and self-esteem, which leads to satisfaction and happiness. Lack of self-discipline can cause failure, health issues, relationship problems and other problems. Using discipline can help one overcome addictions, negative habits, laziness and procrastination. Discipline works best when it is self-imposed rather than externally imposed.



SECTION - B

- Note :**
- (i) This section has **two** options.
 - (ii) You must opt for one of the options only.
 - (iii) You must answer all the questions given in the option chosen by you.

OPTION - I

(E.S.P. FOR RECEPTIONISTS)

17. A receptionist must be courteous and have pleasant manners. Highlight four ways in which she shows people who approach her that she has these qualities. **4**
18. Complete the following statements : **2**
- (a) In order to take correct decisions or actions according to what she hears, the receptionist has to be a good _____.
 - (b) A receptionist often has to mention the telephone number and the name of the organisation at the beginning of a call. The figure '0' should be pronounced as _____.
19. Receptionists at hotels, reservation and cancellation counters, hospitals, etc. often need exact details on several heads. However, callers may not understand the need to do so. Write about any 4 ways (with examples) in which a receptionist can control the conversation. **4**
20. A receptionist has to be familiar with a great deal of information. Often she picks them up from leaflets and other print material. List any 4 things that she must keep handy. **2**
21. Frame requests for the following replies. (do **any 3**) **3**
- (a) I'll arrange for a cab for you right away. Please give me a minute.
 - (b) Sure. I'll give you the number of ABN Airlines.
 - (c) The check-in time is 12 noon.
 - (d) I'll check whether Mr. Shiv Khera has checked in. Just give me a moment.



OPTION - II
(E.S.P. FOR OFFICE USE)

17. Complete the following statements (do **any 3**) : **3**
- (a) You cannot use _____(i) expressions at the work place when you are speaking to your seniors.
 - (b) A _____(ii) is generally used for sending messages from one department to another within the same organisation.
 - (c) While writing a report one should be _____ and not let personal feelings interfere.
 - (d) The _____ of writing a report must be clear to you before you start writing it.
18. Write an e-mail addressed to the Manager of ESP Services informing him about the change in the timings of the meeting which was scheduled for 12.30 pm on 16th December. The meeting will now be held at 4 pm on the same day. You are Manager, ABC Automations. **2**
19. Read the following advertisement published in the National Herald : **4**
- Radhika Sarees Requires : Sales Persons - Female

Post your CV with recent photograph to : The HR Manager, Radhika Sarees,

Lajpat Nagar,

New Delhi - 24
- Write your CV for the job giving necessary details such as age, qualification, experience etc. You are Suman Sharma.
20. What are some of the things you must do as preparation for an interview ? List four things and describe them briefly. **4**
21. Why should a report be brief and based on evidence ? **2**

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