

**SUBJECT: ENGLISH**

**TIME: 2 hrs**

**MM: 125**

**Instructions:**

1. Read all the questions thoroughly before answering.
2. The question paper can be retained by the candidates post exam.
3. The question paper comprises three sections.
  - (a) Reading Section - 25 Marks
  - (b) Writing Section - 50 Marks
  - (c) Grammar - 50 Marks

**SECTION A – READING (20 MARKS)**

**Q.1 Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.**

**[15 Marks]**

Education is a fundamental need and right of everyone now. In order to achieve our goals and help develop a just society, we need education. Similarly, education plays a great role in the development of a nation. As we are facing a major change in terms of knowledge globally, the Government of India approved the National Education Policy 2020. This essay on new education policy 2020 will help you learn how this new policy has replaced the National Education Policy, 1986 that was 34 years old.

This new policy has the aim of universalizing education from pre-school to secondary level. It plans to do that with a 100% GER (Gross Enrollment Ratio) in schooling. The plan is to achieve it by 2030. This new education policy 2020 will highlight the following changes) Firstly, the policy proposes to open Indian higher education in foreign universities. It aims to introduce a four-year multidisciplinary undergraduate program with various exit options. Thus, this new policy will strive to make the country a global knowledge superpower.

Similarly, it also aims to make all universities and colleges multi-disciplinary by the year 2040. Finally, the policy aims to grow employment in India and also bring fundamental changes to the present educational system. The policy gives an advantage to students of classes 10 and 12 by making the board exams easier. In other words, it plans to test the core competencies instead of mere memorization of facts.

It will allow all the students to take the exam twice. Further, it proposes that an independent authority will be responsible for regulating both public and private schools. Similarly, the policy aims to diminish any severe separation between the educational streams and vocational streams in the schools. There will also be no rigid division between extra-curriculum. Vocational education will begin at class sixth with an internship. However, we may consider few disadvantages of the NEP 2020. Firstly, it can make the education system expensive. Meaning to say, admission to foreign universities will probably result in this. Further, it will create a lack of human resources.

If we look at the present elementary education, we notice that there is a lack of skilled teachers. Thus, keeping this in mind, the National Education Policy 2020 can give rise to practical problems in implementing the system that is for elementary education. Finally, there is also the drawback of the exodus of teachers. In other words, admission to foreign universities will ultimately result in our skilled teachers migrating to those universities.

To conclude, we can say that this policy is an essential initiative to help in the all-around development of our society and country as a whole. However, the implementation of this policy will greatly determine its success. Nonetheless, with a youth dominant population, India can truly achieve a better state with the proper implementation of this education policy.

**Answer the following questions:-**

- (a) Explain the term 'a major change in terms of knowledge globally' [1 mark]
- (b) What do you understand by 'universalizing education from pre-school to secondary level'? [1 mark]
- (c) How will this policy make India a global knowledge superpower? [2 marks]
- (d) In what all ways will testing change under this policy? [3 marks]
- (e) Differentiate between educational streams and vocational streams with reference to this passage. [1 mark]
- (f) How does NEP2020 make education expensive? Explain. [1 mark]
- (g) How will the lack of skilled teachers impact the success of NEP2020? [1 mark]

- (h) How will the skilled teachers be affected by the success of NEP2020.  
 (i) What is the one factor that truly determines the success of this NEP2020.  
 (j) Give antonyms of following two words:-  
 (i) Multidisciplinary (ii) Exodus

[2 marks]  
 [1 mark]  
 [2 marks]

**Q.2** Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow:

[10 Marks]

I ask them to take a poem  
 and hold it up to the light  
 like a color slide  
 or press an ear against its hive.  
 I say drop a mouse into a poem  
 and watch him probe his way out,  
 or walk inside the poem's room  
 and feel the walls for a light switch.

I want them to waterski  
 across the surface of a poem  
 waving at the author's name on the shore.  
 But all they want to do  
 is tie the poem to a chair with rope  
 and torture a confession out of it.  
 They begin beating it with a hose  
 to find out what it really means.

**Answer the following questions:-**

- (a) Name two images that stand out to you after reading the poem above. [2 marks]  
 (b) What is your emotional reaction to the poem and why do you choose that emotion? [2 marks]  
 (c) Identify the lines from the poem and state any two poetic devices present in the poem. [2 marks]  
 (d) What do you think is the theme of the poem and why? [2 marks]  
 (e) Explain the meaning of 'torture a confession' with reference to the poem. [1 marks]  
 (f) According to the poet, what is the real goal of reading poetry? [1 marks]

**SECTION B – WRITING (50 MARKS)**

**Q.3** You are Salil / Shalini a resident of Mangalam Vihar Colony, Kolkata. You are extremely disturbed by the severe commercialization of the festivals celebrated in the country. Write a letter to the editor of The Hindu expressing your concern about how this affects the essence and sanctity of the festivals. [10 marks]

**Q.4** 'Schools teach students to be global citizens instead of instilling nationalism'. Express your views on the topic in not more than 200 words. [10 marks]

**Q.5** Write an article for your school magazine on the topic 'Anxiety among children'. [10 marks]

**Q.6** There is a prominence of K pop culture that has permeated the youth today. Write a paragraph in not more than 150 words educating the people on how popular culture is an essential factor for being a global citizen. [10 marks]

**Q.7** Study the picture below and write a story or a description of what it suggests. There must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition. [10 marks]



**SECTION C – GRAMMAR (50 MARKS)**

**Q.8** In the following question, some part of the sentence may have errors. Read the sentences carefully to identify which part of the sentence [(i), (ii) or (iii)] has an error and select the appropriate option. If there is no error in the sentence, choose 'No Error' [(iv)]. [5 Marks]

- (a) (i) She is one/ (ii) of the least/ (iii) important person in the office./ (iv) no error.  
 (b) (i) Hardly had the/ (ii) teacher left the room/ (iii) than the pupils started enjoying./ (iv) no error.  
 (c) (i) The then Chairman/ (ii) had issued / (iii) an order though he was not supposed to. / (iv) no error.  
 (d) (i) She walking / (ii) hurriedly / (iii) meant that she was in a raging rush./ (iv)no error  
 (e) (i) The chief said that / (ii)he did not want taking action without / (iii) listening to the reporters version./ (iv) No error.

Q.9 Fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate option.

- (a) We thought he was benevolent but his actions proved he was quite \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) Selfish (ii) Selfless (iii) Sagacious (iv) Stoic
- (b) I visit my village \_\_\_\_\_ to see my aged grandparents.  
 (i) Usually (ii) Frequently (iii) Gradually (iv) Subsequently
- (c) There is no \_\_\_\_\_ in the pursuit of knowledge.  
 (i) Satiety (ii) Satiated (iii) Satiety (iv) Satiety
- (d) A hockey tournament has been organized \_\_\_\_\_ Jaipur, one of the most affluent town \_\_\_\_\_ Rajasthan and known as the pink city \_\_\_\_\_ the country.  
 (i) at: among: in (ii) in: of: with (iii) on: between: in (iv) in: in: of
- (e) \_\_\_\_\_ rains in Kedarnath caused flashfloods in the upper regions of Uttarakhand.  
 (i) Typographical (ii) Tropical (iii) Torrential (iv) Torrid
- (f) A \_\_\_\_\_ is a multi-purpose scoring guide for assessing student products and performances.  
 (i) Analysis (ii) Report card (iii) Grade card (iv) Rubric
- (g) \_\_\_\_\_ is the way in which men and women are treated or behave differently in society, either with their own gender or with each other.  
 (i) Gender Dynamics (ii) Gender mainstreaming (iii) Gender parity (iv) Gender analysis
- (h) Match the words with their meanings

(1) Absolute	(a) archaic (1)
(2) Obsolete	(b) stubborn (2)
(3) Absolve	(c) complete (3)
(4) Obstinate	(d) acquit (4)

- (i) 1a : 2b : 3d : 4c (ii) 1b : 2a : 3c : 4d (iii) 1c : 2a : 3d : 4b (iv) 1a : 2b : 3d : 4c
- (i) Select the word that is similar in meaning (SYNONYM) to the word - debased  
 (i) Aggrandize (ii) Amenable (iii) Unamenable (iv) Corrupted
- (j) Select the most appropriate 'one word' for the expression: 'Impressive display or range of a particular type of thing.'  
 (i) Heretic (ii) Flotilla (iii) Frivolous (iv) Array
- (k) Four words are given, out of which only one word is spelt incorrectly. Choose the incorrectly spelt word.  
 (i) Notoriety (ii) Expatia (iii) Paucity (iv) Partisan
- (l) Incineration has been used for decades (as the magic-bullet solution to disposing otherwise) persistent waste materials. [Choose the appropriate option to replace the bracketed phrase]  
 (i) as the magic-bullet solution to disposing of otherwise  
 (ii) no correction required  
 (iii) as the magic-bullet solution of disposing otherwise  
 (iv) as the magic-bullet solution to disposing off otherwise
- (m) The question below consists of a set of labelled (P, Q, R, S) sentences. Out of four options given, select the most logical order of the sentences which form a paragraph.  
 The first ruler of the gods was Uranus, the personification of the sky.  
 P. He was married to Gaia, the goddess of the earth.  
 Q. After a prophecy that his children would overthrow him, the original ruler of the world hid his children inside their mother (earth).  
 R. Gaia hated him for this.  
 S. Uranus had twelve children with Gaia. The children of the sky and the earth were known in the ancient sources as the Titans.  
 (i) RPSQ (ii) PSQR (iii) RQSP (iv) PRSQ
- (n) Select the word segment that substitutes (replaces) the bracketed word segment correctly and completes the sentence meaningfully. Select the option 'no correction required' if the sentence is correct as given. Grandma (asked us, "Where were all of you last night.")  
 (i) asked us that, "Where were all of you last night?"  
 (ii) no correction required  
 (iii) asked us, "Where were all of you last night?"  
 (iv) told us, "Where were all of you last night."
- (o) Four words are given, out of which only one word is spelt correctly. Choose the correctly spelt word.  
 (i) simaltaneous (ii) simultaneous (iii) simeltenaous (iv) simultaneous

Q.10 Select the most appropriate tense.

- (a) The full impact of the strike \_\_\_\_\_ till next week, by which time present stocks \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) hasn't been felt / will be exhausted (ii) won't be felt / will have been exhausted  
 (iii) isn't to be felt / have been exhausted (iv) won't be felt / is exhausted

- (b) It was only after she \_\_\_\_\_ English that she \_\_\_\_\_ to make some foreign friends  
 (i) Had learnt / started (ii) learnt / would start  
 (iii) was learning / started (iv) ~~learns~~ / has started
- (c) For decades, researchers \_\_\_\_\_ to wrest predictions from string theory, the leading candidate for a more fundamental understanding of the universe.  
 (i) ~~Tried~~ (ii) were trying (iii) have tried (iv) try
- (d) We \_\_\_\_\_ that this picture \_\_\_\_\_ worth at least 500 dollars. (present perfect tense)  
 (i) have estimated / was (ii) ~~have estimated~~ / is (iii) will estimate / will be (iv) are estimating / is
- (e) Next weekend, I \_\_\_\_\_ my proficiency exam, so I \_\_\_\_\_ more or less 300 questions so far.  
 (i) am going to have / finished (ii) am having / will have finished  
 (iii) ~~Will have~~ / have finished (iv) am having / will finish
- (f) He \_\_\_\_\_ his boss that he \_\_\_\_\_ back after his vacation.  
 (i) hasn't told / won't be coming (ii) doesn't tell / hasn't come  
 (iii) ~~won't tell~~ / won't have come (iv) isn't telling / doesn't come
- (g) By the time Richard \_\_\_\_\_ from the army, he \_\_\_\_\_ involved in three separate riots.  
 (i) retires / would be (ii) retired / had been (iii) ~~has retired~~ / was (iv) retired / will be
- (h) By the time we \_\_\_\_\_ our preparations for the congress, most of the participants \_\_\_\_\_ at the hall.  
 (i) have finished / had arrived (ii) will have finished / arrive  
 (iii) ~~finished~~ / have arrived (iv) finished / had arrived
- (i) I \_\_\_\_\_ Jerusalem Peace Forest so as to escape from the fear and loathing of the soldiers many times ever since I \_\_\_\_\_ to Israel a year ago.  
 (i) visited / had moved (ii) ~~will be visiting~~ / move  
 (iii) have been visiting / will move (iv) have visited / moved
- (j) The Bastille Prison, where many important people \_\_\_\_\_ at one time imprisoned, \_\_\_\_\_ today visited by tourists.  
 (i) have been / is (ii) had been / have been (iii) were / is (iv) ~~are~~ / was

**Q.11 Fill up the blanks with the most suitable phrasal verb.**

**[5 Marks]**

- (a) I'm leaving \_\_\_\_\_ this time.  
 (b) The child \_\_\_\_\_ his mother, not his father.  
 (c) The new bird is \_\_\_\_\_ well with the other ones in the cage.  
 (d) Lets \_\_\_\_\_ the backyard and jump over the fence.  
 (e) The criminal wasn't able to \_\_\_\_\_ with the murder.

**Q.12 Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence.**

**[6 Marks]**

1. Margaret said to me, "Please do not forget to meet me tomorrow".  
 (Begin: I was.....)
2. In spite of my warning to Dev, he ignored me.  
 (Begin: Though.....)
3. It doesn't matter which chemical you put into the mixture first, the results will be the same.  
 (Use: difference)
4. Who does this pen belong to?  
 (Being: Do you know.....)
5. I've never seen so many people in this building before.  
 (Begin: This is.....)
6. Only a few books were remaining on the shelf when we left.  
 (Begin: Most.....)

**Q.13 Change to Indirect speech.**

**[4 Marks]**

- (a) I said to my teacher, "I need your help."  
 (b) He said to me, "You are lucky."  
 (c) The children said to me, "We will go out in the rain."  
 (d) The teacher said, "The school will remain closed tomorrow."

**Q.14 Give antonyms of the following**

**[5 Marks]**

- (a) Immense (c) Wholesale (e) Deliberate  
 (b) Thorough (d) Consume

**ALL THE BEST**