

ENGLISH
MODEL QUESTION
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Time: 1½ hrs. SSC ENGLISH

1-5: Read the following passage from 'Balthazar's Marvellous Afternoon' and answer the questions that follow.

In reality, Jose Montiel had not had time to bathe. He was giving himself an urgent alcohol rub, in order to come out and see what was going on. 'Adelaide!' he shouted. 'What's going on?'

'Come and see, what a marvellous thing!' his wife shouted.

Jose Montiel, obese and hairy, his towel draped around his neck, appeared at the bedroom window.

'What is that?'

'Pepe's cage', said Balthazar.

His wife looked at him perplexedly.

'Whose?'

'Pepe's', replied Balthazar. And then, turning toward Jose Montiel, 'Pepe ordered it'.

Jose Montiel came out of the bedroom.

'Pepe!' he shouted.

'He's not back', whispered his wife, motionless.

1. What was Jose Montiel doing when Balthazar reached his house?

2. Describe briefly Jose Montiel as he came at the bedroom window?

3. Why did Jose Montiel's wife look at Balthazar perplexedly?

4. Why was Jose Montiel angry?

5. Pick out an expression from the passage which means 'extremely good'.

5

6-9: Read the following lines from 'The Master' and answer the questions that follow.

When Han Kan was summoned to the imperial capital

it was suggested he sit at the feet of

the illustrious senior court painter

to learn from him the refinements of the art.

'No, thank you,' he replied,

'I shall apprentice myself to the stables.'

6. Why was Han Kan asked to sit at the feet of the senior painter?

7. Did Han Kan feel humiliated when asked to sit at the feet of the senior painter? Why?

8. Why did Han Kan prefer to remain in the stable?

9. The name of the senior court painter is not mentioned in these lines. Why?

4

10-13: Read the following lines from 'The Arrow and the Song' and answer the questions that follow.

I shot an arrow into the air,

It fell to earth, I knew not where;

For, so swiftly it flew, the sight

Could not follow it in its flight.

I breathed a song into the air,

It fell to earth, I knew not where;

For who has sight so keen and strong

That it can follow the flight of song?

10. Why couldn't the poet tell us exactly where the arrow had fallen?

11. Where did the poet shoot the arrow into?

12. Who can follow the flight of the song the poet has breathed?

13. Pick out any two pairs of rhyming words used in these lines.

4

14-18: Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

The number of fish in the oceans has declined massively in recent years.

Overfishing, improved methods of harvesting fish and pollution are the main reasons

for this decline. New technologies allow fish to be tracked day and night and in all

seasons. Fishing vessels are better designed and have improved nets, lines, and electronic

surveillance. Fishers now catch fish in areas where they were once never harvested. In

the early 1960's, the world's average annual catch was 44 million tons. By the mid 1990's,

the average catch had risen to nearly 110 million tons. However, the catch has fallen

slightly since then. The fishing industry is not the only cause of fish stock decline.

Pollution is a major factor. Environmental scientists have carried out many studies of

pollution. Areas around industrial sites are particularly prone to this problem. Waste

products flow into the seas and rivers from these sites and cause 'dead zones' of oxygen-

depleted water. Governments are now taking steps to stop the pollution and charge those

responsible for their actions.

14. What happened to the fish wealth in our oceans recently?

15. What is the adverse effect of new technologies of fishing?

16. What are the main reasons for the decline of fish in the oceans?

17. Why do industrial sites become harmful to fish?

18. 'Dead Zones' creation is considered as a chargeable offence. Why?

5

19-23: Look at the title pages of four books given below and answer the questions based on them.

OF SCIENCE AND SCIENTISTS

A.N. Kothare
Sudhansu S. Palstue
S.M. Prekh
M.P. Navalkar
National Book Trust, India

Comprehensive ECONOMICS

S.A. SIDDIQUI
AND

A.S. SIDDIQUI

Laxmi Publications, New Delhi

THE NEW CAMBRIDGE HISTORY OF INDIA

Geraldine Forbes

Cambridge University Press

EDUCATION IN INDIA

Padma Ramachandran
Vasanth Ramkumar
National Book Trust, India

19. Which book will you refer to do a project on Education in our country?
20. Two books shown here are publications of National Book Trust. Which are they?
21. Who is the author of the book on Indian History?
22. Your friend is in need of a reference book in Economics. Which book will you suggest?
23. Among the above shown books, one book is written by a single author. Which is that book?

24. A. Answer any one of the following in about 120 words.

Karl Paulnack in his speech 'Art that Heals' says, 'Art is part of the human survival, art is part of the human spirit and an unquenchable expression of who we are.' How does he justify his views through the story of the great French composer Olivier Messiaen?

OR

B. Suppose you were Pepe. You were thrilled to get the fantastic cage made by Balthazar. Next day you narrated the incident to your friend. How would be your narration?

(Yesterday - returned from school - number of people in front of my house - Balthazar with a cage - a thing of art - mother worried - father angry - refused to buy the cage - a present for Pepe - overjoyed.)

25. In the story 'The Bet' it was the young lawyer who underwent life imprisonment and torture. But the banker also was tortured equally. Give a character sketch of the banker.

26. Imagine when Swami left for school with the letter to the headmaster there was a talk between Swami's parents about that letter.

Total Score : 80

Can you prepare the likely conversation between Swami's parents?

5

27. Imagine your friend, the young lawyer in the short story 'The Bet', is adamant in his decision and replies to you stating his stand. How would be his reply for your letter requesting him not to take the bet with the banker?

5

28. Imagine that you are the Arts Club Secretary of your school. Your club wants to present the play 'The Beggar and the King' on the stage in connection with your annual day celebration s. Prepare a notice inviting pupils to appear for an interview to select the characters for the play.

5

29. Write a short profile of 'Nissim Ezekiel' using the following hints.

6

Birth : December 14, 1924

Place of birth : Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

Education : A Bachelor's degree in literature from Wilson College, Mumbai

Nationality : Indian

Occupation : Poet, playwright, art critic

Works : The Bad Day (collection of poems), Ten Poems, The Deadly Man.

Awards : Sahitya Akademi Award in 1983

Genres : Indian writing in English

Death : 9 January 2004

30. There are a few errors in the passage given. They are in bold letters. Read the passage carefully and edit it.

5

It was a summer evening. I hear an uproar from the building next to the medical shop. An old man waiting for the bus tells me that it is from the tuition centre. I want to see what is going on there. Then the old man warn me that I would miss my bus if I went there.

31. Supply the missing words in the following passages where '?' is given.

5

Air travel is / (a) safest and most popular means / (b) transport. In the United States / (c) example, the number of passenger routes flown annually / (d) scheduled domestic / (e) local routes is measured in hundreds of billions.

32. Balthazar met his neighbour Franko at the pool hall. Complete their dialogue suitably.

Franko : You sold the cage to Jose Montiel (a)?

Balthazar : Yes, I sold it.

Franko : (b)?

Balthazar : I got sixty pesos.

Franko : I would have bought it for 70 pesos, (c)

Balthazar : I shall make another one for you.

Franko : Then make it soon, the sooner (d)

Balthazar : Unless (e), I won't give it you.

Franko : I shall give the full amount in ready cash.

33. Read the following sentences.

Please rest for a while.

I don't want any rest now.

In the first sentence 'rest' is used as a verb, where as in the second it is used as a noun. Use each of the following words given below in sentences of your own as a verb and as a noun.

a. cage

b. fool

c. walk

34. Fill in the blanks given below choosing the right phrases from the brackets.

6

It was 9. 30 am. Swami didn't (a) He was lying on the bench in mother's room. Father (b) and (c) in a chair. He said to Swami 'Have you no school today? (d)

your dress and go to school at once.'
[came in, put on, get up, sat down]

35. Read the following pieces of conversation and answer the questions that follow.

2

Balthazar : Do you think they will give me fifty pesos?

Ursula : That's nothing for Jose Montiel, and the cage is worth it.

What was Balthazar's question to Ursula?

What was Ursula's reply?

1. Jose Montiel was taking a quick bath when Balthazar reached there.
2. Jose Montiel was obese and hairy. He had draped a towel around his neck.
3. She looked at Balthazar perplexedly because she knew that Jose Montiel would be angry to know that the cage was made for his son Pepe.
4. marvellous.
5. When he heard that Pepe had ordered for the cage without his consent, Jose Montiel became angry.
6. Han Kan was asked to sit at the feet of the senior painter to learn more details about the art of painting.
7. No, because he wanted to follow the instructions of his own mind.
8. He wanted to learn by himself. So he preferred to remain in the stable.
9. He is only a court painter, an instrument of the royal power. He has no individuality. So his name is not mentioned in the poem.
10. The arrow flew so swiftly that the poet's eyes couldn't follow its path. So he did not know where it had fallen.
11. The poet shot the arrow into the air.
12. Anyone who has keen and strong sight, can follow the song.
13. air / where, sight / flight
14. The fish wealth has declined considerably in recent years.
15. New technologies help fishers catch fish day and night and in all seasons.
16. The main reasons for the decline are overfishing, improved devices for fishing and pollution.
17. Wastes from the industrial areas flow into the seas and rivers and create 'dead zones' there.
18. In 'dead zones' the water is oxygen depleted. No fish can survive there. So the government considers it as a chargeable offence.
19. Education in India, by Padma Ramachandran and Vasantha Ramkumar
20. Education in India and Of Science and Scientists
21. Geraldine Forbs
22. Comprehensive Economics by S.A. Siddiqui and A.S. Siddiqui
23. The New Cambridge History of India, by Geraldine Forbs.
24. A. The Second World War was going on. Nazi Germany captured the French composer Olivier Messiaen and imprisoned him in a concentration camp. A prison guard gave him some paper. There were three other musicians, a cellist, a violinist and a clarinetist. Messiaen wrote his famous quartet. The Quartet for the End of Time with these specific players in mind. It was performed in 1941 in the camp. And it became one of the famous masterworks.

Those were torture camps. The camps were without money, hope, recreation and basic respect. Then how could he compose such a masterpiece! But Paulhuck said, 'Art is part of human survival, part of human spirit. It is an unquenchable expression of what we are.' That was why masterpieces were born even in concentration camps.

B. One day when I returned home from school I saw a large crowd in front of my house. I was a little puzzled. Among the crowd I saw our neighbour Balthazar. He was holding a beautiful cage. I heard Mr. Balthazar say that the cage was made for me. Dad seemed very angry. Mom stood frightened. Then Dad told him that he should have consulted Dad before he took an order from a boy like me. Dad ordered him to take away the cage.

I could not control my grief. I threw myself on the floor and began to cry. When Mom tried to console me Dad was angry with Mom too. I lay there weeping tearlessly. Mom held me by my wrists.

Then Balthazar came near me and held the cage out to me. I jumped up and embraced the cage. Mom and Dad asked me to give it back. But Balthazar replied that he had made it expressly as a gift for me. He didn't expect a single cent for it. My joy knew no bounds. I didn't know how to thank Mr. Balthazar.

25. The banker in the story, 'The Bet' was a young man who had journalists and intellectual men as his friends. He had no intention to engage in a bet with the young lawyer. He was seized with a sudden impulse to make the bet. He promised 2 million roubles to any one who was ready to undergo solitary confinement for five years. But when the young lawyer came forward announcing his readiness to stay fifteen years in prison, the banker was really surprised.

The banker firmly believed that the young man would not complete his period of imprisonment successfully and he would not have to lose the two millions. But as years passed he became uneasy. He lost almost all his wealth. He knew he would be totally perished if he had to pay the bet amount. He decided to kill the prisoner. But when he entered the cell he saw the letter written by the lawyer renouncing his claim for the two millions. He would go out of the prison free.

pleasures. The banker was greatly relieved. He would have been a murderer or he would have to commit suicide. No one could explain his disposition then.

26. Mother: You sent a letter with Swami to the headmaster, didn't you?

Father : Yes, I did.

Mother : Is it a complaint against Mr Samuel?

Father : Do you think so?

Mother : I don't know.

Father : Mr Samuel is a very good teacher.

Mother : But Swami says the opposite.

Father : He doesn't know the truth.

Mother : Then what have you written?

Father : Let him give the letter to the headmaster and see what happens.

Mother : Yes. Let's hope for the best.

Father : OK.

27. Love Dale

Vologda

Moscow

21st June 2013

Dear Semionich,

Got your letter yesterday. Thank you for your advice.

Friend, it is not out of a sudden impulse that I made this bet. I think that I can prove my stance. I am not too much concerned about the bet amount. I believe in what I said. So I'm sorry to tell you that now I can't withdraw from the deal. Hope you will support me.

Expecting your prayers.

Your friend
Sd/-
Alexy

NOTICE

TCM High School, Santhipuram
Annual Day Celebrations
Friends,

I am glad to announce that our Arts Club is going to present the play 'The Beggar and the King' on the stage in connection with our annual day celebrations. Those who are interested to act in the play shall give their names to the undersigned before 20th February. Selection of characters will be made on the basis of an interview. For further details you may contact the secretary.

Place

15 February 2013

Sd/

Arts Club Secretary

29. Nissim Ezekiel (1924- 2004)

Nissim Ezekiel, the well-known poet, playwright and art critic was born in Mumbai on December 14, 1924. As an Indian, writing in English he is very popular. He had his Bachelor's Degree from Wilson College. The Bad Day, Ten Poems, The Deadly Man etc. are some of his works. In 1983 he was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Award. He passed away on 9 January in 2004.

30. It was a summer evening. I heard an uproar from the building next to the medical shop. An old man waiting for the bus told me that it was from the tuition centre. I wanted to see what was going on there. Then the old man warned me that I would miss my bus if I went there.

31. a. the, b. of, c. for, d. on, e. and

32. a. didn't you

b. How much did you get

c. if I had money

d. the sooner, the better

e. Unless you give the full amount

33. a. Tom has built a small cage for his pup.

He cages it when he goes to school.

b. He is a fool to think that I will lend him money again.

I don't like to be fooled more than once.

c. Nowadays he takes only short walks.

He can't walk for long.

34. a. get up

b. came in

c. sat down

d. put on

35. Balthazar asked his wife whether she thought they would give him fifty pesos.

Ursula replied that that was nothing for Jose Montiel. She