

AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BOARD

SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

CLASS IX EXAMINATION

MAY 2012

English Compulsory Paper II

Time allowed: 2 hours 15 minutes Marks 50

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Check your name and school information. Sign that it is correct.

**I agree that this is my name and school.
Candidate's signature**

2. RUBRIC. There are THREE questions. Answer ALL THREE questions. Questions 2 offers TWO choices and Question 3 offers THREE choices. Attempt any ONE choice from each.
3. When answering the questions:

Read each question carefully.
Use a black pencil for diagrams. DO NOT use coloured pencils.
DO NOT use staples, paper clips, glue, correcting fluid or ink erasers.
Complete your answer in the allocated space only. DO NOT write outside the answer box.
4. The marks for the questions are shown in brackets ().

Q.1.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

(Total 18 Marks)

Sara had been taught the significance of charity and sharing since childhood. Belonging to an average family, Sara didn't possess all the luxuries of life. Her family didn't own an LCD television, a computer, or any such high-tech gadgets. She didn't even have a telephone to communicate with friends. However, this never got in the way of her happiness. She was indeed a cheerful child and very optimistic about life.

At school most of her class-mates belonged to average families. However, she had a few rich, bratty kids as classmates too. They would always tell exaggerated stories and boast how and where they celebrated their birthdays, had family lunches, dinners, etc. She tried to keep away from them but like every child, soon fell prey to jealousy.

She recalled a lecture her teacher once gave during class. Her teacher had told them, "When you give someone something, fate rewards you with twice as much!" Sara contemplated this phrase. She decided to collect her pocket money and help people more frequently, in the hope to be rewarded with double as much. However, she didn't receive much in return. She began to question herself and wonder if what her teacher had said was untrue. So she decided to put this question forward to her teacher.

The next day as usual, the richer kids' self-importance and arrogance got the better of Sara. Sara waited anxiously for the day to end. The last lesson seemed to go on for hours. But as soon as the bell rang, Sara quickly put her books away and was about to approach her teacher with the question when she heard someone crying. She recognised the voice; it was Anum, her close friend.

Sara hurried to see what the matter was. Anum told her that a classmate who shared her lunch with Anum was demanding money in return. Sara knew Anum's parents would be angry if she asked them for money, so she conciliated her and offered to pay the money for her. Anum hugged her saying she was indeed her best friend. Sara felt proud of being able to help a friend in need. As Sara walked away from Anum, she suddenly realised that she had found the answer to all her questions. She wouldn't want Anum to pay her back double; she wouldn't want her to pay her back at all, for she had helped her because she cared. And then Anum's genuine appreciation meant the world; Sara didn't need anything else.

Source: The Daily DAWN

- a. Describe any FIVE features of Sara's personality as depicted in this passage other than her positive attitude to life. (5 Marks)

- b. Sara had a very positive attitude towards life. Despite this fact, she became a victim of jealousy. Why? Give THREE reasons. (3 Marks)

c. What had made Anum cry and how did Sara help her?

(3 Marks)

d. How did Sara's attitude change after helping Anum?

(2 Marks)

e. "When you give someone something, fate rewards you with twice as much." Explain the mentioned statement and quote a personal experience to support your explanation.

(5 Marks)

Q.2.

Compose a response of about 120 words to any ONE of the options a or b. (Total 14 Marks)

EITHER

- a. Most school-going children face the problem of being bullied by some stronger or senior students. Write a letter to your sister/brother and tell her/him about an incident in which a child suffered because of bad treatment by a bully.

OR

- b. Write a letter to a distant friend and tell her/him about the hazards of heavy rain affecting the people in your area.

Make your notes below. Write your final draft on pages 6 and 7.

PLEASE TURN OVER THE PAGE

Option _____

[illegible]

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Q.3.

Write a composition of about 200 words on any ONE of the options a, b or c.

(Total 18 Marks)

Remember to compose the final draft in complete sentences.

EITHER

- a. Parents are our first and most important teachers. Describe a time when you learned a valuable lesson from one of your parents.

OR

- b. The way a person handles disappointment reveals a great deal about what is important in his life. Write about a time when you confronted disappointment and how you handled it.

OR

- c. You want to organize a school reunion. Describe the steps you will take to contact people and to organize the event.

Make your notes below. Write your final draft on pages 9 and 10.

Option _____

[illegible]

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[illegible]

END OF PAPER

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