

AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BOARD

SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

CLASS IX

ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS (THEORY) 2025

English Compulsory Paper II

Time: 2 hours Marks: 45

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Check your name and school information. Sign if it is accurate.

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

RUBRIC

2. There are **THREE** questions. Answer **ALL** questions. Question 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 pointer to write your answers. **DO NOT** write your answers in pencil.
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.

(Total 17 Marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer all the questions that follow.

5 Travelling is important for humans. We are communal creatures that are of the same species, yet our location determines societal actions based off cultured and governmental laws... Travelling to see places beyond our hometown is crucial to gain exposure to the world. Whether someone travels domestically or to a foreign country, it can be an experience for a lifetime. Foreign travels may require extra planning such as obtaining a visa... Travelling should be a happy thing, even if it is just a business trip to another state. It's important to maintain a continual pattern of learning and awareness throughout one's lifetime...

10 Travelling gives us exposure to other cultures. If an individual has remained in their home time for their entire life, it would make it hard to completely understand the struggles and celebrations of other regions and countries. One country can be vastly different from one side to the other. The dialects, food, and the terrain can all be different from one place to another... Exposure to these things allows us to become open-minded and understand that though we are different, it is our similarities as humans that brings us together.

15 One of the best things about visiting a new place is the food. Many television shows are dedicated to showing us all about other cultures and the food they eat because food displays many virtues and explains many things about a culture from the local agriculture to necessary imports... Another great benefit to travelling is the connections that are built, and the relationships made during one's stay. As humanity is often divided, learning to communicate across nations and foster a global understanding of each other is crucial to the success of all countries and people...

Source: Adapted from an article on travelling by Dispatch as published on <https://wp.nyu.edu>

a. Identify the thesis statement from the given passage. (1 Mark)

b. Explain a way in which the theme of the passage can be categorised as adventure. (2 Marks)

- e. Suppose you are the author of the given passage. Write any THREE features of travelling that you would add to enhance the meaning of the passage. (3 Marks)

- f. The given passage educates the reader about the importance of travelling. Provide TWO points from the passage to support this statement. (4 Marks)

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Q.2.

(Total 10 Marks)

Compose a response of about 200-250 words on any **ONE** of the options **a** or **b**.

EITHER

- a. Write an email to your friend on trying out a new restaurant over the weekend. In your email,
- state the name of the restaurant.
 - discuss details about the restaurant's cuisine or ambiance (atmosphere) that fascinated you.

OR

- b. Suppose your cousin had written a letter to you asking for advice on how to improve in his/ her studies. Write a letter responding to the request. In your letter, discuss **TWO** ways in which your cousin can improve in his/ her studies.

Make your notes below or on the pages given for rough work. Write your final draft on pages 6 and 7.

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PLEASE TURN OVER THE PAGE

Q.3. (Total 18 Marks)

Write a composition of about 200-300 words on any **ONE** of the options **a, b or c.**

EITHER

a. Recently, thousands of new mobile apps are being developed by many companies to provide their users a wide range of options to play games, shop and interact with others through the apps. Write an essay on the given topic. In your essay

- state your favourite mobile app.
- describe TWO reasons for your choice.
- suggest a change or modification that you would like the company to make in the app.

OR

b. Narrate a time (real or imagined) when you were transported to another time (past or future). In your essay,

- mention the time you travelled to.
- describe your feelings throughout the situation.
- differentiate between the time you travelled to and the current time in TWO ways.

OR

c. Everyone has a hobby that they enjoy taking part in. It could be collecting stamps, reading books, or painting.

Write an essay about your hobby. In your essay, describe

- a hobby which you enjoy. It could be different from the hobbies mentioned above.
- THREE reasons why it became your hobby.

Make your notes below or on the pages given for rough work. Write your final draft on pages 9 and 10.

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END OF PAPER

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