

Class 11
14-5-2015

First Unit Test in ENGLISH

Time : 1 hr.
M. Marks : 20

General instructions:

1. This paper is divided into three sections: A, B & C. All sections are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and questions, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION - A [READING] (5 marks)

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions which follow:

Due to ever-increasing population, bad economics, droughts and mismanagement of natural resources, probably the most acute "disease" being faced by humanity at large today is malnutrition. Currently, a large group of lower photosynthetic plants called algae are gaining in prominence day by day as a means of fighting malnutrition and as a source of health foods. Of the algae, the genus gaining the most importance as a food supplement for humans, is Spirulina. In 1993, Monaco hosted the first major world conference on Spirulina.

Spirulina is a filamentous organism belonging to the group of blue-green algae known as cyanobacteria. It is very rich in proteins. Spirulina farms can produce about 20 times more protein per unit area than soybeans. In addition, Spirulina lacks cellulose in its walls and this makes its protein easily digested and assimilated in the human body. Studies have shown that this protein is 85 to 95% digestible. In addition to proteins, Spirulina also contains high quantities of other nutrients like vitamins and minerals.

In the field of human health, other than their role in fighting malnutrition, algae are also important as sources of medicinal drugs. Algae produce polysaccharides, carotenes and unsaturated fatty acids, in significant quantities. The importance of these compounds in medicine is well known. The carotenes are a group of photosynthetic pigments. Of the carotenes, probably, the most important is the α -carotene. α -carotene is the well-known orange pigment in carrots. Doctors believe that α -carotene could help prevent cancers of the throat, stomach, colon and gastrointestinal tract. Further, vertebrate metabolism converts α -carotene into vitamin A. Spirulina contains 15 times more α -carotene than carrots.

Some doctors believe that a diet of Spirulina slows down aging of cells. More recently, it has been used to treat children suffering from the effects of radiation after the Chernobyl accident in 1986, because it promotes the evacuation of radio-nucleids from the human metabolism. In addition to proteins, carotenes, unsaturated fatty acids and polysaccharides, Spirulina also produces a group of lipids called sulfolipids. Experiments indicate that sulfolipids are remarkably active against the AIDS virus. In view of all its superlative nutritional and medicinal qualities, Spirulina has been dubbed as the "super food".

- 1.1 What are algae and how are they gaining prominence? (1)
- 1.2 What malnourishment does the author refer to in the above paragraph? (1)
- 1.3 What is Spirulina? (1)
- 1.4 What is a 'super food'? Substantiate by giving one example. (1)
- 1.5 Find words from the passage which means the same as: (1)

- a) species (paragraph 1)
- b) exceptional (paragraphs 3, 4)

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SECTION - B [WRITING & GRAMMAR] (7 Marks)

2. You are the President of the Debating Society of Loyola Public School, Kolkata. You are organising an inter-school debate competition on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of your school. Write a notice in about 50 words, informing the students of your school about this competition and inviting participants from 11th class to represent your school in the competition. (3)
3. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Underline the incorrect words and write the correction against the correct blank number in your answer sheet. The first one has been done for you as an example. (2)
- Nature has lavishly endowed Kashmir by certain distinctive features that is paralleled by few alpine regions in the world. It is in land of snow clad mountains that shared a common boundary with Afghanistan, China and Pakistan. Jammu and Kashmir are the northernmost state of the Indian Union.
- with
- a) _____
 - b) _____
 - c) _____
 - d) _____
4. Rearrange the following words/phrases to form meaningful sentences. (2)
- a) Platinum's / exclusivity and wealth / has / rarity / to / as a metal / caused advertisers / it with / associate /
 - b) properties / unique / Watchmakers / as it / tarnishes / appreciate the / neither / nor / wears out / of platinum /

SECTION - C [LITERATURE] (8 Marks)

5. Read the following stanza and answer the questions given below:
- The sea holiday*
Was her past, mine is her laughter.
Both wry with the laboured ease of loss.
- a) Who does 'her' in the above lines refer to? (1)
 - b) What is meant by 'mine is her laughter'? (1)
 - c) Identify the figure of speech used in this line: 'laboured ease of loss'. Briefly explain the meaning of the verb 'wry' in the context. (2)
6. Answer the following questions in about 30 to 40 words: (2 x 2=4)
- a) Give an instance from the story 'The Portrait of a Lady' which shows that the grandmother did not approve of education imparted in English medium schools.
 - b) What was the turning point in the relationship of the author and the grandmother?