

Class: XI

Subject : English

Assignment No. 3

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Much before medical science discovered it, Reader's Digest came out with the prescription – Laughter is the Best Medicine. Newspapers and magazines which regularly run humour columns are, therefore, doing their bit to keep the readers in good health. Reading light articles, whether they be satirical, comic or just humorous, relieves the tedium of work-a-day world. Some pieces may even tickle one's grey matter.

It is said that if you laugh for ten minutes you will be in a better position to put up with pain for two hours. According to US researchers, laughter is a good antidote to stress that tones up the system. Facial laugh muscles instruct the brain to 'feel good regardless of how you feel. According to a French doctor, laughter deepens breathing, improves blood circulation, speeds up the process of tissue healing and stabilizes many body functions. In short, it acts as a power drug with no side-effects. Researchers state that laughter stimulates production of beta-endorphins, natural pain killers in the body and improves digestion. Those who laugh are less prone to digestive disorders and ulcers.

Some people in France have made it a career. You can hire a 'jovialist' who cracks jokes and laughs and promises to make you dissolve in helpless laughter. A word of caution. Although laughing is a good exercise for toning up the facial muscles, laughing at others' expense, particularly at their disabilities, is in bad taste and is to be avoided. Secondly, laughing with food in the mouth is dangerous as the foodstuff can get into the wind pipe and may choke the digestive system.

Eating, any way, is a serious business to be trifled with by any jocular diversion. Laughter comes best when it is free of encumbrances, whether it is constricting food or the need to humour the boss.

- 1.1. On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it, using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary. Supply a suitable title.
- 1.2. Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words.

WRITING

2. You are Mukesh of Chas, Bokaro. You have been reading the news items on Nithari killings. Write a speech in about 150-200 words to be given in the morning assembly stressing the need of keeping a close vigil on the anti-social elements of the locality and taking care of young children of the area so that they don't fall prey to bad characters.
3. You have borrowed some books from your school library. Unfortunately you have to go away to visit a sick relative and cannot return the books in time. And now you find that you cannot even locate them. Write a letter to the library in charge. Explain what has happened and propose what you can do in this regard.
4. You are David/ Dorothy, the Secretary of the Dance and Drama Society of the Sanskrit School, Patna. Write a notice for your school notice board inviting students to give their names for a fancy dress competition.

5. You came across your friend Sumit in the busy cloth market of Chandni Chowk, Delhi. You have met Sumit after five years. You have met Sumit after five years. During these years he has launched a travel and tourism company and is running it successfully. You have a number of questions to ask him. Frame ten questions you would like to ask him.

GRAMMAR

1. You are an investigating officer. The police has rounded has up some hefty looking persons suspected to have aided the crime of murdering an aged couple in a South Delhi flat. Frame ten questions you would like to put to each one of them.
2. Tony has just attended a seminar on oxygen therapy. He shares his experience with his class. Using the information given below construct a dialogue with five more sets of exchanges. One has been done for you.
Hints:- *How much oxygen-average person-at rest-half a litre per minute-simple method: deep breathing-popularity of oxygen therapy in India: few side effects: advanced countries-who-inhale usually: professional athletes-to boost their energy levels and relieve bodies of maladies-allergies to hangovers- it is always useful: excess of it may be toxic- cause intoxication and cellular abnormalities.*
3. The following passage has ten errors. Identify the errors in each line and write them along with the corrections as shown in the example.

Many of our understanding of early humans
has come in the past ten and twenty years
of study. Advances over the field of genetics and more
accurate carbon dating methods
have provided the great deal of valuable
information and there has been some exciting
new finds of Africa. However, there are still large
gaps in our knowledge; the
oldest human ancestor are yet to be found and
there are many unanswered questions.

Incorrect	Correct
e.g. Many	Much
a) _____	_____
b) _____	_____
c) _____	_____
d) _____	_____
e) _____	_____
f) _____	_____

LITERATURE

6. Cade desperately wanted to teach Freddie without taking any care of his likes and dislikes – Why?
7. According to 'The Dry Salvages', what is life? Which of the literary devices has been used in the poem?
8. What was the reaction of the people when the bomb was dropped? (A doctor's journal entry)
9. Do you believe that actions that leave their footprints on the 'sands of time' ought to be emulated? Substantiate with examples from real life.
10. Describe the great meeting of children on the basis of 'Gitanjali'.
11. Compare and contrast Mr. Gradgrind and Mr. Sleary. Whose philosophy would you advocate and why?
12. How far do you agree with the writer's viewpoint that our friendship with books should not be at the cost of our human friends? What brought about the tragic end of Mr. Gessler?

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