O. P. JINDAL SCHOOL, SAVITRI NAGAR

Periodic Test - I (Round - II) 2026 - 2027

Class: XI MM: 20

Subject: English Time: 1 Hr.

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, CREATIVE WRITING & LITERATURE.
2. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION A- READING

Q1. Read the following passage:

1. Positive thinking is a mental attitude that focuses on hopeful, optimistic and constructive outcomes. It doesn't imply ignoring the challenges or difficulties of life. Instead, it is about responding to challenges with a mind-set that believes in possibilities, solutions, and growth. A positive thinker maintains an attitude of resilience, determination, and hope, even during difficult times. People who practice positive thinking tend to face life's ups and downs with resilience, courage, and hope.

2. Modern research in psychology and medicine has revealed that positive thinking can have a profound impact on a person's mental and physical well-being. People who engage in positive self-talk and optimistic thinking experience reduced stress, better cardiovascular health, improved immunity, and lower levels of depression. They also tend to experience greater happiness and emotional stability. This is because positive thoughts stimulate the release of chemicals such as serotonin and dopamine in the brain – both of which are linked to happiness, calmness, and overall well-being.

3. For students positive thinking can be a powerful tool. Academic life is filled with exams, deadlines, and performance pressure, and a positive mind-set helps students manage this stress effectively. It builds self-confidence, enhances focus, reduces exam-related anxiety, improves learning by increasing mental clarity and helps students bounce back from failures. When students believe in their ability to improve and succeed, they are more likely to overcome setbacks and remain motivated. When they focus on solutions rather than problems, they become more creative and engaged. A positive mind-set also promotes discipline, consistency, and clarity – skills that are essential for academic success.

4. Developing a habit of positive thinking is a continuous process. It involves identifying and challenging negative thought patterns, practicing gratitude, using positive affirmations, and surrounding oneself with supportive influences. Regular physical activity, meditation, and mindful breathing also help in cultivating a balanced and optimistic outlook. Positive thinking also encourages better interpersonal relationships, as individuals with a cheerful and understanding attitude often communicate more effectively and handle conflicts maturely.

5. In conclusion, positive thinking is not just a feel-good philosophy – it is a scientifically supported tool that promotes success, health, and happiness. By adopting it, individuals can improve their quality of life, strengthen their relationships, and reach their goals with greater efficiency and joy. When nurtured over time, it can transform the way individuals respond to life's ups and downs, making them stronger, wiser, and more fulfilled.

Answer the following questions based on the passage above : (4 Marks)

(i) Which of the following is not recognised as a way to develop positive thinking? 1

a. Using positive affirmations c. Developing negative thought patterns

b. Practising gratitude d. Meditation

(ii) Mention two ways in which positive thinking leads to academic success. 2

(iii) Assertion: Positive thinkers experience greater happiness and emotional stability. 1

Reason: Positive thoughts stimulate the release of chemicals such as serotonin and dopamine in the brain

a. Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

b. Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

c. Both A and R are false.

d. A is true but R is false.

SECTION B- GRAMMAR & CREATIVE WRITING

Q2. Rearrange the following words into meaningful sentences: : (Attempt any TWO) (2 Marks)

i) if / rain / it / we / doesn't / go / won't / out

ii) although / he / tired / very / continued / he / was / working

iii) unless / grammar / write / improve / you / you / won't / well / your

Q3. Attempt any one in about 50 words. (3 Marks)

You are Karuna Kapoor, Secretary, Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Draft a poster to build awareness among the public to stop being cruel to animals.

OR

You are Azad Tandon/ Smriti Gulam of Lotus International School, Jodhpur. Your school is organizing a workshop on "Prevention of Drug Abuse" in the coming week. Prepare a poster with complete information for the students of class X-XII.

SECTION C- LITERATURE

Q4. Read the following extract and answer the questions: (1x2 = 2 Marks)

"Then sleek as a lizard, and alert and abrupt,

She enters the thickness, and a machine starts up

Of chitterings, and a tremor of wings, and trillings-

The whole tree trembles and thrills."

i) How is the goldfinch described by the poet when it arrives?

a. Slow and steady b. Bright and colourful

c. Sleek as a lizard, and alert and abrupt d. Quiet and calm

ii) What does the reference to the 'machine' indicate in line 2?

iii) Find out the literary device used in the last line.

Q5. Answer the following in 40 to 50 words each: (3 X 3 = 9 Marks)

(i) "Unity is strength". How does the chapter 'We're Not Afraid to Die... if We Can All Be Together' illustrate this adage?

(ii) What similarity do you find between the opening and ending of the poem in terms of the condition of the Laburnum tree?

(iii) What did the farmer John Byro tell the two boys when they accidentally met him with his horse in their custody?