

**JB Academy**  
**Half Yearly Examination**  
**Class 12, English**

Time 3 hrs

MM:80

**SECTION A (Reading )**

(22 marks)

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

(12)

**James Webb Telescope**

1. NASA has announced the launch of the James Webb Telescope (JWST) at 7:20 am EST (5:50 pm Indian time ) on December 24 ,2021. Webb, the world's premier space science observatory , will succeed the Hubble Space Telescope , Nasa's flagship telescope that has been in service for more than three decades.
2. NASA says Webb is not Hubble's replacement – rather, its successor whose science goals were motivated by the results from Hubble. Webb will permanently study the universe in the infrared, while Hubble looks at it mainly at optical and ultraviolet wavelengths. Webb's mirror is much larger than Hubble's ; it can , therefore , look farther back into time than Hubble . Also , Hubble is in a much closer orbit around Earth than Webb will be .
3. Webb's four instruments to capture images and spectra of astronomical objects will provide wavelength coverage from .6 to 28 microns ( the infrared part of the electromagnetic spectrum is from about 0.75 microns to a few hundred microns ) ; the instruments on Hubble can observe mainly in the ultraviolet and visible parts of the spectrum from 0.1 to 0.8 microns. Infrared instruments can penetrate the dust that shrouds newly formed stars and planets and make them visible.
4. Webb's primary mirror is approximately 6.5 in diameter , bigger than the mirrors of the current generation of space telescopes. Hubble's mirror has a diameter of 2.4 metres , which means Webb's collecting area is 6.25 times wider. Webb will cover more than 15 times the field of view covered by Hubble's NICMOS camera. Webb's sun shield is about 22 m by 12 m , a little less than the size of a tennis court.
5. Hubble orbits the Earth at an altitude of 570 km. Webb will not orbit the Earth , instead , it will sit at the Earth –Sun L2 Lagrange point , 1.5 million km away. This means that Webb will orbit the Sun along with the Earth , but will stay fixed at the same spot in relation to the Earth and the sun. At the L2 point , Webb's solar shield will block the light from the Sun ,Earth and the Moon , which will help it stay cool- important for an infrared telescope.
6. Because light takes time to travel , the farther away an object is , the farther back in time we are looking . Thus , while Hubble can see the equivalent of "toddler's galaxies " , Webb will be able to see " baby galaxies " which are very dim at visible wavelengths of light.

**Answer the following questions based on the passage above :**

- (i) Both telescopes have powerful specifications but what is the biggest differentiating feature between the two . Select the correct option . (1)
  - (a) James Webb Space Telescope will primarily study the universe in the infrared.
  - (b) Hubble looks at it mainly at optical and ultraviolet wavelengths.
  - (c) There is no difference.
  - (d) Both (a) and (b)
- (ii) What is extraordinary about Webb's mirrors? Choose the correct option from the given ones. (1)
  - (a) Webb's primary mirror is approximately 6.5 times wider
  - (b) It is bigger than the mirrors of the current generation of space telescopes .
  - (c) Webb's collecting area is 6.25 times wider.
  - (d) All of the above.
- (iii) Has the James Webb Space Telescope replaced Hubble? What is NASA'S take on the JWST? Explain in 40 words. (2)

- (iv) Complete the sentence appropriately with a characteristic or its description . (2)

Based on the information given in the extract , Webb's four instruments to capture images and spectra of astronomical objects will provide \_\_\_\_\_.

- (v) Choose the correct option . (1)  
How will Webb manage to remain cool despite being so near the sun ?  
(a) Webb's solar shield will block the light from the sun , Earth and the Moon  
(b) Webb's solar shield is transparent and will pass the light from Sun to Earth.  
(c) Blocking the light from sun is not important for an infrared telescope  
(d) Both (b) and (c)
- (vi) How is Webb able to position itself so near to the hot sun , a feat hitherto unaccomplished by any other space observatory? (2)
- (vii) In the line , " ...Webb will primarily study the Universe in the infrared , while Hubble looks at it mainly at optical and Ultraviolet wavelengths ." What does the word " optical " mean here? (2)
- (viii) What will enable Webb to see new born galaxies? (2)
- (ix) Read the five Headlines (1) to (5) given below .
- (1) Webb's mirror – larger than Hubble's.
  - (2) Webb's sun shield – a little less than the size of a tennis court.
  - (3) Webb's sunshield – important for an infrared telescope .
  - (4) Webb's sunshield – 22 m by 12 m.
  - (5) Webb's sunshield – not very important

Identify the option that displays the headlines that DOES/DO NOT correspond with the information given in the passage . (1)

- (a) (1) and (2) (b) (2) and (3)  
(c) only (5) (d) (3) and (4)

**2. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: (10)**

1. Self-respect is very different than relying on one's or false Self persona that serves as a cover to show the world only " the good stuff" of a personality . It is the gift we give ourselves when we become less motivated to please others in order to get their approval and more motivated to live a life of authenticity and personal integrity despite whatever anyone else thinks about us.
2. The dismal fact is that self respect has nothing to do with the approval of others –who are, after all , deceived easily enough ; has nothing to do with reputation which is something that people with courage can do without . It is to know the difference between the price of things and their value and the courage to own your mistakes.
3. In brief , people with self –respect exhibit a certain toughness , a kind of moral nerve ; they display what was once called character ,a quality which , although approved in the abstract , sometimes loses ground to other , more instantly negotiable virtues .Its slipping prestige is dismissed is dismissed when one sees people coveting success or money or fame at any at all costs . Nonetheless, character –the willingness to accept responsibility for one's own life –is the source from which self-respect springs.
4. To live without self -respect is to lie awake some night , beyond the reach of warm milk , phenobarbital , and the sleeping hand on the coverlet , counting up the sins of commission and omission , the trust betrayed , the promises subtly broken , the gifts irrevocably wasted through sloth or cowardice or carelessness. However , long we postpone it , we eventually lie down alone in that notoriously uncomfortable bed, the one we make ourselves . Whether or not we sleep in it depends , of course, on whether or not we sleep in it depends ,of course , on whether or not we respect ourselves.
5. To have that sense of one's intrinsic worth which , for better or for worse , constitutes self-respect , is potentially to have everything : the ability to discriminate , to love and to remain indifferent . To

lack it is to be locked within oneself , paradoxically incapable of either love or indifference ,. If we do not respect ourselves , we are on the one hand forced to despise those who have so few resources as to consort with us , so little perception as to remain blind to our fatal weakness. On the other hand forced to despise those who have so few resources as to consort with us , so little perception as to remain blind to our fatal weaknesses. On the other hand we are particularly in thrall to everyone we see, curiously determined to live out- since our self image is untenable – their false notion of us. We flatter ourselves by thinking this compulsion to please others an attractive trait : a gift for imaginative empathy , evidence of our willingness to give.

Based on your understanding of the passage , answer the questions given below .

- (a) Select the option that conveys the idea that false Self Persona is nothing but carefully cultivated. (1)
- (i) True personality of a person (ii) Self- respect  
(iii) Unauthentic mask (iv) “ Real good stuff “
- (b) How does a person negotiate interpersonal relationships according to paragraph 5 ? Which one of the given options is a mismatch? (1)
- (i) We cannot love others who are any less than us .  
(ii) We cannot be indifferent to ourselves  
(iii) We strain ourselves living up to a false image.  
(iv) We remain blind to our flaws.
- (c) Why do we flatter ourselves? (1)
- (d) Complete the sentence appropriately with respect to what the writer is emphasizing upon . (1)
- The fact is that self-respect is \_\_\_\_\_
- (e) The writer would not agree with the given statements except one. Select that option . (1)
- (i) Self –respect is a virtue not appreciated in modern times.  
(ii) Self-respect has stood its ground.  
(iii) It used to be a non-negotiable virtue.  
(iv) It is losing ground on various counts.  
(f) Would you agree with the author’s belief that one’s intrinsic worth constitutes self –respect?  
Elaborate upon it in 40 words. (2)  
(g) Infer to sum up, with respect to the following. (1)

To live without self-respect is to lie awake some night , beyond the reach of warm milk , phenobarbital , and the sleeping hand on the coverlet , counting up the sins of commission and omission.

(h) According to the author , people without integrity suffer on more than one count . State at least two ways to support the author’s claim. (1)

(i) Read the five titles (1) –(5) , given below. (1)

(1) If you don’t stand for something , you will fall for anything.

(2) Handsome is as handsome does .

(3) Neither fish , nor fowl.

(4) Rolling stone gathers no moss.

Identify the option that displays the titles that does/do not correspond with the passage.

- (i) Only (1) (ii) (2) and (3) (iii) Only (5) (iv) Only (4) and (5)

**Section B ( Creative Writing Skills )**

**(18 Marks)**

**3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two in about 50 words. (4)**

(A) You are Samrithi / Sampat Saran of Victoria Public School, Hyderabad. Your school organized a Science Exhibition in connection with the death anniversary of Ramanujam. Write a notice in about 50 words to be put up on the notice board . Furnish all the necessary details.

**OR**

(B) Your school is organizing a Talent Search in Music and Dance. As the co-ordinator of Cultural activities , draft a notice in about 50 words , inviting the names of those interested in taking part in the competition . Give other necessary details , to be placed on your school notice –board. Sign as Uday/ Vijaya of G.P Senior Secondary School, Agra.

**4. Attempt ANY ONE of the following in about 50 words. (4)**

(A) Your friend, PV Satish, has invited you to attend the wedding of his sister , Jaya . You find that you have a pre –board examination on the day of the wedding, thus you cannot attend the event. Write in about 50 words a formal reply to the invitation expressing your regret. You are Puneet/Puneeta Vij , M-114 , Fort Road , Chennai.

**OR**

(B) You are Abhishek Uppal , the Head Boy of S.D.Public School, East Patel Nagar , New Delhi. Your school is going to hold a summer camp for training students in different sports. The duration of the camp is one month. Write a formal invitation to the Sports Minister to inaugurate the Camp on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2023.

**5. Attempt ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words . (5)**

(A) Recently you went to your native village to visit your grandparents . You saw that some of the children in the age group 5-14 ( the age at which they should have been at school ) remained at home , or were working in the fields or simply loitering in the streets.

Write a letter to the Editor of a National Daily taking help from the given cue/s analyzing the problem and offering solution to it. You are Navtej /Navita Kumar ,M-114, Mount Kailash.

- Children forced to work in hazardous conditions
- Govt. initiatives- not much effective
- Authorities carry out surprise raids
- Rehabilitation in child care homes

**OR**

(B) You are working as Medical Representatives (MR) in a foreign based company . Now you want to change your job . Write an application and detailed biodata for applying to an Indian Medical Company for the post of MR. You are Varun/ Vani Jain .

**6. Attempt ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words. (5)**

(A) Your city has just witnessed an auto fair and you attended it with your friends. You have now been asked to write an article on “The world of Autos “ in 120-150 words.

Cue/s

- Technocrats –part of modern living
- More growth in auto industry

- standard of living - determined
- Latest technology – main attraction

OR

(B) You are Lakshmi/ Lakshman , a student of PDK International School, Madurai, You recently witnessed a fire accident in a slum area near your colony. You were very much disturbed at the pathetic sight . Write a Report in 120-150 words for your school magazine.

Cue/s - fire broke out in Seemapuri  
- Engulfed the area

- loud hue and cry  
- arrival of fire brigade

**SECTION C ( Literature Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text )**

**(40 Marks)**

**7. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow.**

**(6)**

**(A) Aunt Jennifer’s tigers prance across a screen  
Bright Topaz denizens of the world of green.  
They do not fear the men beneath the tree  
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty**

- (a) Which of the following options best describes the traits of the tigers as given in the extract?  
(i) Faithful and fearful (ii) Ferocious and heroic  
(iii) Fearless and chivalric (iv) Timid and gentle

(b) What does the words “ A world of green “ in the extract stand for ?

(c) Select the words that WILL NOT complete the sentence appropriately.

Aunt Jennifer’s tigers are a symbol of \_\_\_\_\_

- (i) Fearlessness (ii) Fearfulness  
(ii) Courage (iv) Strength

(d) State whether the given statement is true or false

Aunt Jennifer’s tigers represent the confidence of tigers.

(e) What are Aunt Jennifer’s tigers ?

(f) Complete the sentence appropriately.

Aunt Jennifer’s tigers are not afraid of men because \_\_\_\_\_

OR

**(B) Therefore on every morrow are we wreathing  
A flowery band to bind us to the Earth  
Spite of despondence , of the human dearth  
Of noble natures , of the gloomy days  
Of all the unhealthy and over darkened ways**

(i) Pick the option that is not an example of “ unhealthy and over darkened ways.”

- (a) Adopting an optimistic approach in life  
(b) Trials and tribulations in life  
(c) People achieve their goals with dishonesty  
(d) People adopt unfair means to achieve their goals.

(ii) What does the use of the expression “noble nature “ in the given extract suggest?

(iii) Select the sentence that will not complete the sentence appropriately.

Every morning we prepare a wreath of flowers that \_\_\_\_\_

- (i) Sticks                      (ii) Ties                      (iii) binds                      (iv) separates

(iv) State whether the following is true or false .

People harm themselves by following unhealthy and wicked paths .

(v) What message has been conveyed in the given extract?

(vi) Complete the sentence appropriately.

The ornate band created by human beings \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Read the given extract and answer the questions for any one of the two given (4)**

**(A) Right at the start, it is imperative to disclose a matter of vital importance about the Tiger King. Everyone who reads of him will experience the natural desire to meet a man of his indomitable courage face to face. But there is no chance of his fulfillment. As Bharat said to Ram about Dasarath.**

**The Tiger King had reached that final abode of all living creatures . In other words the Tiger King is dead.**

- (i) Complete the sentence appropriately.  
'A man of his indomitable courage ' is a satire on \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) The narrator says " It is imperative to disclose the matter of vital importance about the tiger king ". The matter which the narrator wants to reveal is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Choose the correct option in reference with context.
- (a) The death of Tiger King.  
(b) The reason of death of Tiger King .  
(c) The lineage of incidents after the death of Tiger King.  
(d) None of the above .
- (iii) What is imperative to disclose?  
(iv) What did Bharat say to Ram about Dasarath?

**OR**

**(B) The Shokalskiy had managed to wedge herself into a thick white stretch of ice between the peninsula and Tadpole island which was preventing us from going any further. The captain decided we were going to turn around and head back north, but before we did, we were instructed to climb down the gangplank and walk on the ocean. So, there were, all 52 of us kitted out in Gore –Tex and glares, walking on a stark whiteness that seemed to spread out forever.**

**Underneath our feet was a metre thick ice pack and underneath that, 180 metres of living, breathing salt water.**

- (i) What did the Captain instruct to do?  
(ii) Select the most suitable title for the given extract.
- (a) Students on Ice  
(b) A Journey to Antarctica  
(c) 24 Hour Journey  
(d) A Journey to Aliens
- (iii) Complete the sentence appropriately , with reference to the extract.  
Gore –tex is referred to as \_\_\_\_\_
- (iv) What instruction was given to captain?

9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions ANY ONE of the two, given. (6)

(A) As he walked with the money in his pocket he felt quite pleased with his smartness. He realized of course, that at first he dare not continue on the public highway, but must turn off the road , into the woods. During the first hours this caused him no difficulty. Later in the day it became worse , for it was a big and confusing forest which he had gotten into. He tried, to be sure , to walk in a definite direction , but the paths twisted back and forth so strangely! He walked and walked without coming to the end of the wood, and finally he realized that he had been only walking around the same part of the forest.

- (i) What caused no difficulty to the peddler during the first hours?
- (ii) The line “ later in the day it became worse, for it was a big and confusing forest which njhe had gotten into “ can be classified as ;
  - (a) A Fact
  - (b) An opinion
  - (c)A theme
  - (d) A plot point
- (iii) Explain any one possible inference that can be drawn from the line , “ ***He walked and walked without coming to the end of the wood, and finally he realized that he had only been walking around in the same part of the forest***”
- (iv) Identify the line from the text that bears evidence to the fact that the peddler had come into a confusing forest.
- (v) What money is being talked about?
- (vi) Complete the sentence with ONE WORD only (Other than the one given )

AS the peddler walked along with the money in his pocket he was quite pleased with \_\_\_\_\_

OR

(B) “ I have nothing else to do ,” he mutters , looking away.  
“Go to school,” I say glibly , realizing immediately how hollow the advice must sound.  
“There is no school in my neighbourhood. When they build one , I will go.  
“If I start a school, will you come ?” I ask, half joking. “ Yes “, he says , smiling broadly.  
A few days later I see him running up to me. “ Is your school ready ?”  
“ It takes longer to build a school ,” I say , embarrassed at having made a promise that was not meant. But promises like mine abound in every corner of his bleak world.

- (i)List any two details discussed in the extract about Saheb.
- (ii) Select the option that completes the given sentence appropriately.  
In “ When they build one ,I will go ‘ , Saheb is referring to as “they” to the \_-----
  - (a)inhabitants
  - (b)officials
  - (c)teachers
  - (d)Journalists
- (iii) Complete the sentence appropriately.  
It is the ardent desire of the author that Saheb \_\_\_\_\_
- (iv)Pick evidence to prove that the narrator was embarrassed at having made a promise that was not meant.
- (v)What was the irony in Saheb’s name.
- (vi)Name the author of the chapter.

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in about 40-50 words . (5x2=10)

- (i) How can mighty dead be the things of beauty?
- (ii) Why did Edla still entertain the peddler even after she knew the truth about him?
- (iii) What efforts did Douglas make to get over his fear of water ?

(iv) How did Franz's feeling about M. Hanel and school change?

(v) Explain "Student On ice" program.

(vi) What were the ordeals of Aunt Jennifer?

**11. Answer any two of the following three questions in about 40-50 words. (2x2=4)**

(a) Describe the wooden tiger.

(b) How did Hana feel when she saw the messenger in official uniform?

(c) What were the insults that Zitkala-Sa faced?

**12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words (5)**

(A) On returning home Tishani Doshi writes her thoughts reflecting on how her decision to enroll for the Students on Ice programme has been the single most important decision of her life that has completely transformed her.

Imagine yourself to be Tishani Doshi and express these thoughts.

You may begin like this:

*I can't thank my stars enough for having cashed in on the opportunity.....*

OR

(B) Both Bama and Zitkala-Sa experienced the harsh reality of discrimination in their childhood. Instead of letting it pull them down, they both found a way to overcome it. You wish to include a cameo of both in your upcoming blog post.

As a part of the research, compare and contrast the experiences faced by the two and their responses to these experiences, in 120-150 words.

(A cameo is a short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something)

**13. Answer ANY ONE of the following in 120-150 words. (5)**

**(A) "The river Yakima was treacherous. Mother continually warned about it and kept fresh in my mind the details of each drowning in the river."**

Douglas, in "Deep Water" wanted to learn to swim and was not deterred either by his mother's warnings or by the fact that he nearly drowned in the YMCA swimming pool.

After reading the lesson you realise that it is really important to follow our dreams. Sometimes we are afraid of water as was Douglas, but we need to overcome our fears if we wish to be successful in our endeavours. You wish to write an article to be published in your school magazine urging young people to be fearless in following their dreams. You wish to remind them that the future of the nation lies in the hands of its intrepid/fearless youth.

OR

**(B)** Based on the reading of the chapter The Interview elucidate Umberto Eco as a literary genius who won the attention and hearts of his readers.