

English Series 3
Section: Reading

Reading section in the SLC Exam follows the following format:

Total Marks : 40	Type of test : Written	
Total Questions : Four reading comprehension passages		
Seen passages: 2 (5 +10 =15 marks)	Unseen passages: 2 (10 + 15 =25 marks)	
<u>Types of questions:</u>		
- Short answer questions	- Cloze	- Ordering
- Multiple Choice	- True/False	- Fill in the spaces
- Vocabulary (<i>matching, synonyms and antonyms</i>)	- Matching	
<i>(Except short answer questions, the types of questions should not be repeated in the two seen comprehension passages. This is applied to the two unseen comprehension passages as well.)</i>		
<u>Types of reading texts:</u>		
Seen passages:	Poem and general texts from Grade X textbook.	
Unseen passages:	Passages, advertisements, stories, notices, letters, charts, graphs and tables	

1. Some seen comprehension passages with answer key

1. Read the poem "Patriotism" (given in unit 13 exercise 10 on page no 102) and answer the following questions: 5
- A. Write 'True' or 'False' against the following statements. 4x0.5=2
- (a) 'A patriot' means a person who is ready to defend his/her country against enemy.
 - (b) According to the poet there's none to die twice.
 - (c) The poet says that all the fortune of a selfish one is useless.
 - (d) He says 'anti-nationalists' are honoured.
- B. Answer the following questions: 3x1=3
- (a) What is far better than heaven?
 - (b) Who dies twice?
 - (c) Who are unsung by the countrymen?

Answers A. (a) True (b) False (c) True (d) False

Answers B.

- (a) Mother land/Native land is far better than heaven.**
- (b) He/she who spends his/her life for oneself only dies twice.**

(c) Those who do not love their country are unsung by the countrymen.

2. Read the poem "Where the rainbow ends!" (given in unit 14 exercise 12 on page no 110) and answer the following questions: 5

A. From the poem, find the words that are opposite in meaning to the following words: 4x0.5=2

(a) easy (b) happy (c) starts (d) separately

B. From the above poem answer the following questions: 3x1=3

- (a) Is the poet black?
(b) What does the word 'brother' refer to?
(c) Why is it difficult to sing together?

Answers A. (a) difficult (b) sad (c) ends (d) together

Answers B.

- (a) The poet says he is not white, so perhaps he is black.
(b) The word brother refers to the white men.
(c) It is difficult to sing together because they don't know the tune.**

3. Read the poem "Stopping by Woods on a snowy evening" (given in unit 19 exercise 11 on page no 153) and answer the following questions. 5

A. Write 'True' or 'False' against the following statements: 4x0.5=2

- (a) The poet's house is in a village.
(b) The poet stops in a farm house.
(c) The horse rings the bell to warn the poet.
(d) The poet has made promises to be fulfilled.

B. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words: 3x1=3

- (a) The poet stops to enjoy
(b) The event described in the poem happened at the time of
(c) The poet hears the sounds of

Answers A. (a) False (b) False (c) True (d) True

Answers B.

- (a) Woods/snow-covered woods (b) evening (c) wind/ snowfall/ and horse's bell**

4. Read the poem [given in Unit 1, Exercise 1 (Weather), on page no. 11], and answer the questions given below: 5

A. From the poem, find the words that are similar in meaning to the following words: 4x0.5=2

a) light rain (b) thin, fine cotton cloth (c) shake gently (d) tree

B. Answer the following questions: 3x1=3

- a) What kind of weather does the cuckoo like?
b) What do citizens dream?
c) Where do the birds go during the cold season?

Answers:

- A. a) shower b) muslin dress c) betumble
d) beeches**

- B.**
- a) **The answer word: spring**
Now in a complete sentence: The cuckoo likes the weather described in the first verse that is the spring season.
- b) **The answer word: dream of south and west**
Now in simple words: Citizens dreams/ plans to travel to different places.
- c) **The answer word: homewards go**
Now in a complete sentence: During the cold season, the birds go to other places where there is no cold weather.

5 Read the following text (given in unit: 13 on page 95 of your textbook) and answer the questions given below. 10

A. Write the words, from the above passage, which are opposite to the following words: 6x0.5=3

- (a) confessed (b) primitively (c) expert
 (d) departure (e) harmony (f) valid

B. Write 'True' or 'False' against the following statements: 4x0.5=2

- (a) She was well educated when she was born in Florence.
 (b) Later, she was selected as one of the personnel of a hospital.
 (c) She was allowed to train as a nurse in 1851.
 (d) During the Crimean War, Britain and France went against Turkey.

C. Answer the following questions: 5x1=5

- (a) Where was Florence Nightingale born?
 (b) What was her family anxious about?
 (c) What was her curiosity?
 (d) Why wasn't she permitted to be a nurse before 1851?
 (e) Who did she volunteer her services to?

Answers:

- A. (a) refused/opposed (b) eventually/finally (c) untrained (d) arrival (e) conflict**
B. (f) invalid
C. (a) False (b) True (c) True (d) False
C. (a) Florence Nightingale was born in Italy.
(b) Her family was anxious for her marriage.
(c) She wanted to be a nurse.
(d) She was not permitted to be a nurse because nursing was not a prestigious job and on top of that the hospitals were dirty.
(e) She volunteered her services to wounded and disable soldiers and also to those who were suffering from cholera and malaria.

6. Read the following text (given in unit: 16 on page 124 and answer the questions given below. 10

A. Write the words from the above passage, which are similar in meaning to the following words: 4x0.5=2

- (a) vividly (b) weakness (c) area (d) essential

B. Answer the following questions: 6x1=6

- (a) What does WHO stand for?

- (b) What do you mean by physical health?
- (c) Which of the aspect deal the ability to keep a relationship with other people?
- (d) Why are all the aspects of health important?
- (e) What do most of the people think about health and spirit?
- (f) What is the concept of Hindus about health and spirit?

C. . Write 'True' or 'False' against the following statements: 4x0.5=2

- (a) Health only means the absence of disease.
- (b) Different parts of body's function is physical health.
- (c) Health does not consider the mind.
- (d) We should be careful only in our physical condition.

Answers:

- A. (a) apparently (b) infirmity (c) aspects (d) necessary/integral**
- B. (a) WHO stands for World Health Organization**
- (b) Physical health means how well all the parts of the body function.**
- (c) Social aspect deals with the ability to keep relationship with other people.**
- (d) All the aspects are necessary for the complete health of the individual.**
- (e) Most of the people think that 'the absence of disease of infirmity' is health.**
- (f) According to Hindus the body and the spirit are an integral part of human being.**
- C. (a) False (b) True (c) False (d) False**

7. Read the following text (given in unit: 17 on page 128 and answer the questions given below.

10

A. Find the words from the passage that are similar in meaning to the following words:

6x0.5=3

- (a) reason (b) pure (c) gestured
- (d) watched (e) vanished (f) clearly

B. Rewrite the following sentences in the correct order: 6x0.5=3

- (a) Mr. Chhetry stopped the writer.
- (b) The writer was highly impressed by the book.
- (c) The writer did not choose the book.
- (d) He read the book throughout the whole night.
- (e) Once Mr. Chhetry had no smaller notes.
- (f) Mr. Chhetry watched him minutely.

C. Answer the following questions. 4x1=4

- (a) How did Mr. Chhetry pay the writer?
- (b) What do you think, was Chhetry a liar or gentleman?
- (c) How did the writer go through the book?
- (d) Why did the writer not choose a book to read?

Answers:

- A. (a) apparently (b) infirmity (c) aspects (d) necessary/integral**
- B. (a) Once Mr. Chhetry had no smaller notes.**
- (b) Mr. Chhetry stopped the writer.**
- (c) The writer did not choose the book.**
- (d) Mr. Chhetry watched him minutely.**
- (e) The writer was highly impressed by the book.**
- (f) He read the book throughout the whole night.**

- C. (a) He didn't pay in cash but by giving him his book to read.
 (b) He is not a liar but a gentleman because the book given by Mr. Chhetry changed the writer's mind on reading books.
 (c) The writer was highly impressed by the book given by Mr. Chhetry that he continued to read the book all through the night.
 (d) He used to read the books what he found. He had no special idea on selecting books.**

8 Read the following text (given in unit: 19 on page 146, and answer the questions given below. 10

A. Find the words from the passage that are similar in meaning to the following words: 4X0.5=2

- (a) crying (b) scattered (c) injuries (d) thanks

B. Rewrite the following sentences in the correct order: 4X0.5=2

- (a) Neha was grateful to Vikram.
 (b) Vikram managed to catch him.
 (c) Kanhaiya fell off the window.
 (d) He was rushed to a clinic.

C. Answer the following questions: 3X2=6

- (a) How did Kanhaiya fall off the window?
 (b) How was he saved?
 (c) Why didn't Neha notice Kanhaiya when she looked out through the window grille?

Answers:

- A. (a) sobbing (b) dispersed (c) bruises (d) gratefulness**
**B. (a) Kanhaiya fell off the window.
 (b) Vikram managed to catch him.
 (c) He was rushed to a clinic.
 (d) Neha was grateful to Vikram.**
**C. (a) Kanhaiya slid through the hole, hit the second floor window shade and landed heavily on Vikram's chest.
 (b) Vikram caught him before he fell onto the ground.
 (c) Neha did not notice because he had been rushed to a nearby clinic.
 (d) The message could be: 'Do not leave small children near windows.'**

9 Read the following text (given in unit: 14 on page 104)and answer the questions given below. 10

A. Choose the best alternatives: 4X0.5=2

- (a) The writer's parents always encouraged him to be in while going to school.
 (i) half-pants (ii) trousers (iii) suit
 (b) The writer was in dilemma because
 (i) He got his new school uniform.
 (ii) He was going to be excluded from photo session.
 (iii) He did not have a pair of trousers.
 (c) On the day of photo-session, the writer went to school wearing.....
 (i) his father's trousers
 (ii) his usual dress
 (iii) his friends' long pants

- (d) The copy of the school photograph resulted the ending in his life.
 (i)sad (ii) tragic (iii) fruitful
- B. Find the words from the text that are opposite in meaning to the following words:
 $4 \times 0.5 = 2$
 (a) included (b) carelessly
 (c) hidden (d) dispersed
- C. Answer the following questions: 3x2=6
 (i) Why did the writer's parents force him to wear shorts?
 (ii) What different attempts did the writer make to get pair of trousers?
 (iii) How did the head teacher save the writer from class teacher's anger?

Answers:

- A. (a) half pants (b) he did not have a pair of trousers (c) his usual dress (d) fruitful**
B. (a) excluded (b) duly (c) exposed (d) gathered
C. (a) They saw nothing wrong in wearing shorts.
(b) He tried to get from his friends, tried of his father's, and asked parents to buy one.
(c) The head teacher saved him by giving permission to be in the photo session.

10. Read the following text (given in unit 9 on page 67) and answer the questions given below: 10

A. From the text ,write the words that are opposite in meaning to the following words:

$6 \times 0.5 = 3$

- (a) stop (b) begun (c) unhelpful
 (d) weaken (e) criticized (f) traditional

B. Rewrite the following sentences in the correct order: 4x0.5=2

- (a) It was rehabilitated.
 (b) People praised for the rehabilitation of the bank.
 (c) The bank was merged into Ratnanagar.

C. Answer the following questions: 3x2=6

- (a) When was the newspaper published?
 (b) What was the cause of Mr Sayami's death?
 (c) When was the NBL Parsa market branch office established?
 (d) Why was the banking service stopped?
 (e) Why was the banking service resumed again?

Answers:

- A. (a) resume (b) halted (c) supportive**
(d) bolster (e) lauded (f) modern
B. Correct order: c,d,a,b
C. (a) The newspaper was published on the 18th of December, 2007.
(b) He died of heart attack.
(c) It was established in 1995.
(d) The banking service was stopped due to security problem.zz
(e) The banking service was resumed because of the request of the local entrepreneurs, civil society and customers.s

11. Read the following text (given in Revision unit, exercise 6, page no. 29) and answer the questions given below: 10

A. Find the words from the passage which are closest in meaning to the following words or phrases: $4 \times 0.5 = 2$

- (a) Forced (b) product (c) as a result (d) clearly

B. Write 'True' or 'False' against the following statements: $4 \times 1 = 4$

- (a) The Mahajan was a kind person.
(b) Rani was not sold as she did not want to be.
(c) Prodip Pal was charged with interest at the rate of 50%.
(d) Prodip Pal was happy to sell his cow.

C. Answer the following questions: $4 \times 1 = 4$

- (a) Why did the writer call the Mahajan 'vampire'?
(b) On what condition did Prodip Pal obtain a loan from the Mahajan?
(c) What was the reaction of the cow when she was sold?
(d) Why did Prodip Pal sell his buffalo and cow?

Answers:

A. (a) compelled (b) harvest (c) consequently (d) obviously

B. (a) False (b) False (c) True (d) False

C.

(a) The writer called the Mahajan a vampire because he would charge the poor villagers with heavy interest for the loan he provided to them during their difficult condition.

(b) He obtained a loan of four hundred pounds of rice from the Mahajan on the condition that he would return six hundred pounds after the harvest.

(c) She strained at her rope with all her might uttering the most heart rending bellows, indicating that she didn't want to be parted from the Pals.

(d) Prodip Pal sold his buffalo and cow because he was not able to pay back the loan.

12. Read the following text (given in 'after you finish' exercise no 6, page no. 161) and answer the following questions: 10

A. Match the words with their meanings: $4 \times 1 = 4$

Column A

mentally retarded

scribbles

mess

strides

Column B

state of confusion

walking with long steps

abnormal, mentally underdeveloped

hasty, careless writing

B. Answer the following questions: $3 \times 2 = 6$

- (a) Who can't read and write?
(b) What made the writer's friends angry?
(c) Why did the writer feel bad?

Answers:

A.
mentally retarded = **abnormal, mentally underdeveloped**
Scribbles = **hasty , careless handwriting**
Mess = **state of confusion, disorder**
Strides = **walking with long steps**

B.
(a) Nima can't read and write.
(b) Nima's making a mess of things in the games made the writer's friends angry.
(c) The writer felt bad because her mother blamed her for not taking care of her sister although it wasn't really so.

13. Read the following text (given in "before you begin", exercise 1 on page no 1 and 2) and answer the following questions. 10

A. Find the words in the text that have the opposite meanings to these words: 6×1=6

- (a) farewell (b) grown-up (c) took off
 (d) gigantic (e) tiny (f) followers

B. Answer the following questions: 4×1=4

- (a) Where did the spaceship come from?
 (b) Why did they pick Suren up?
 (c) What was their message to human beings?
 (d) Why did they give Suren the tiny computer?

Answers:

A.

- (a) welcome (b) kid (c) landed**
(e) tiny (f) enormous (f) leaders

B.

- (a) The spaceship came from another planet.**
(b) They picked Suren up to pass on an important message regarding wise use of natural resources to the leaders of his nation and the world.
(c) Their message to human beings was to set up collection centres in every town and city on Earth so that cans, bottles, old household appliances, in fact everything which is no longer in use, could be taken there and recycled.
(d) They give Suren the tiny computer as a proof of his meeting to those Aliens so that people on earth would believe that what he would tell to them was true.

14. Read the following text (given in 'before you begin', exercise no 11 on page no. 16 and 17) and answer the following questions: 10

A. Match the following words with their meanings: 4×1=4

- | Column A | Column B |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Rubbish | plant and animal life |
| Flora and fauna | got rid of |
| Disposed of | waste material |
| Designated | marked |

B. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words from the text: 3×1=3

- (a) Parsa wildlife reserve was established in
- (b) Children below ... are allowed free entrance.
- (c) There are ... species of birds in the reserve.

C. Answer the following questions: 4×1=4

- (a) Where's Parsa Wildlife Reserve?
- (b) How do you get there?
- (c) What are its main features?
- (d) Does it have an entrance fee?

Answers:

A.

- Rubbish** = waste material
- Flora and fauna** = plant and animal life
- Disposed of** = got rid of
- Designated** = marked

B.

- (a) 1984
- (b) 10 years
- (c) nearly 300

C.

- (a) Parsa Wildlife reserve is in Central Nepal, spreading over some parts of Chitwan, Makawanpur, Parsa and Bara districts.
- (b) One can get there by bus via the Kathmandu-Birgunj highway or the Mahendra Ragmarg or by air.
- (c) It's main features are as follows:
 - (i) It is in Central Nepal.
 - (ii) It supports a good population of resident wild elephants, tigers, leopards, sloth bears, blue bulls and wild dogs.
 - (iii) It has nearly 300 species of birds, including the endangered species such as the Giant Hornbill.
 - (iv) It is accessible by bus or by air.
- (d) Yes, it has an entrance fee.