

**PABSON**  
**SEE PRE BOARD EXAM 2077**

Subject: Compulsory English

Full marks: 75

Time: 2:15 hrs

*Candidates are required to write creative answers wherever applicable. The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

1. Read the following poem and do the activities that follow.

5

**The Chimney Sweeper**

When my mother died, I was very young,  
And my father sold me while yet my tongue  
Could scarcely cry 'weep! 'weep! 'weep! 'weep!  
So your chimneys I sweep and in soot I sleep.

There's little Tom Dacre, who cried when his head,  
That curled like a lamb's back, was shaved: so I said,  
"Hush, Tom! never mind it, for when your head's bare,  
You know that the soot cannot spoil your white hair."

And so he was quiet, and that very night,  
As Tom was a-sleeping he had such a sight!  
That thousands of sweepers, Dick, Joe, Ned, and Jack,  
Were all of them locked up in coffins of black;

And by came an angel who had a bright key,  
And he opened the coffins and set them all free;  
Then down a green plain, leaping, laughing they run,  
And wash in a river and shine in the sun.

Then naked and white, all their bags left behind,  
They rise upon clouds, and sport in the wind.  
And the angel told Tom, if he'd be a good boy,  
He'd have God for his father and never want joy.

And so Tom awoke; and we rose in the dark  
And got with our bags and our brushes to work.  
Though the morning was cold, Tom was happy and warm;  
So, if all do their duty, they need not fear harm.

- William Blake

Answer the following questions.

5×1=5

- a) Which phrase in the poem indicates the speaker's age?
- b) How does the speaker pacify Tom when he gets his head shaved?
- c) How did the angel open the coffins?
- d) What was the angel's message?
- e) Why was Tom excited about going to work the next morning?

2. Read the passage below and do the activities that follow.

10

We are all born to lead successful lives, but our conditioning leads us to failure. We are born to win but are conditioned to lose. We often hear comments like "This person is just lucky, he touches dirt and it turns to gold" or "He is unlucky; no matter what he touches, it turns to dirt." These comments are not true of anyone.

If you were to analyse the lives of lucky and unlucky individuals being commented on, you'd find that the successful person is doing something right in each transaction, and the failure is repeating the same mistake time and again. Practice does not make perfect – only perfect practice makes perfect. Practice makes permanent whatever you do repeatedly. Some people keep practising their mistakes and they become perfect in them. Their mistakes become perfect and automatic.

Cultivating a habit is like plowing a field. It takes time. Habits generate other habits. Inspiration is what gets us started, motivation is what keeps us on track, and habit is what makes it automatic.

The ability to show courage in the face of adversity; show self-restraint in the face of temptation, choose happiness in the face of hurt, show character in the face of despair, and see opportunity in the face of obstacles are all valuable traits to possess. But these traits do not just appear; they are the result of constant and consistent training, both mental and physical. In the face of adversity, our behaviour, whether positive or negative can only be what we have practised. When we practise negative traits such as cowardice or dishonesty in small events, and hope to handle the major events in a positive way, it won't happen because that's not what we have practised.

- A. State whether the given statements are true or false. 5×1=5**
- A successful person is likely to make errors in each of their transactions.
  - Cultivating a habit takes time.
  - Habits are likely to generate other multiple habits.
  - We can easily acquire personal traits.
  - Practising positive traits only in major events leads us to success.

- B. Answer the following questions. 5×1=5**
- What steers us towards becoming unsuccessful according to the writer?
  - What comment do we normally hear about successful people?
  - What factors can be found in the lives of people who are considered lucky?
  - How do mistakes become perfect and automatic?
  - How can we possess the valuable traits?

**3. Read the following announcement and do the tasks that follow. 10**

#### **Vacancy Announcement**

Nepal Clearing House Ltd. (NCHL) is a Payment System Operator licensed by Nepal Rastra Bank and promoted by Nepal Rastra Bank and almost all the banks and financial institutions to establish and operate national payment systems in Nepal. It is currently operating Electronic Cheque Clearing (NCHL-ECC), Interbank Payment System (NCHL-IPS), connectIPS e-Payment System, National Payments Interface (NPI), etc. with daily average of over NRs 45 billion equivalent of transaction of almost all sectors. With the aim of expanding its team, NCHL invites applications from qualified and competent Nepali nationals for the following full-time position.

#### **Senior System Analyst / Senior Developer– Software Development Section (1)**

This is a mid-level role to analyze, design, develop and implement software solutions for the business/process requirements. This includes preparation of business and system requirements gathering, system designs, development, testing and implementation of new and existing systems/ products.

**Job requirements:**

- At least University degree in engineering/science, IT/IS, computer applications or related field.
- At least 5 years of experience in system/technology design, development, implementation, and/or operation. Experience in payment systems/interfaces will be an advantage.
- Ability to develop software in Java. Programming languages like C# and Python will be an added benefit.
- Experience in developing web applications using at least one popular web framework (JSF, Wicket, GWT, Spring MVC).
- Excellent knowledge of Relational Databases, SQL and ORM technologies (JPA2, Hibernate) in Windows and Unix/Linux based platforms.

Eligible candidates are required to apply through [merojob.com](http://merojob.com) or [askmeconsult.com](http://askmeconsult.com) or send updated CVs to [hr@nchl.com.np](mailto:hr@nchl.com.np) with mention of the applied position in subject line no later than **14<sup>th</sup> March 2021**. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for further screening process.

**A. Fill in the blanks with suitable words/phrases from the text. 5×1=5**

The given \_\_\_\_\_ has been published by NCHL which is a \_\_\_\_\_.  
The company is currently trying to expand its \_\_\_\_\_ and is looking for qualified candidates. Candidates need to be able to develop software by using \_\_\_\_\_ while knowledge of other programming languages will be extra beneficial. Only those candidates who are \_\_\_\_\_ will be contacted for further process.

**B. Answer the following questions. 5×1=5**

- a) Which institution has NCHL got the operating license from?
- b) What is the daily average transaction of NCHL?
- c) Which position is there a vacancy for?
- d) How can candidates apply for the post?
- e) What is the deadline for applications?

4. Read the following passage and do the activities that follow.

The pleasure of reading books is undoubtedly very high. Before the invention of printing, books were handwritten, and so were few in number and difficult to get. But in the modern age, books are easily available, and those who wish, can have no difficulty in enjoying the blessing of being able to read books of their choice. The pleasures of reading are indeed many and varied. They vary according to the taste and temperament of each reader.

**Intellectual Pleasure of Reading:** Those who are by nature intellectual, who find delight in grappling with difficult problems, naturally derive a great joy from reading books dealing with serious problems. The exercise of the mind that such reading affords gives them a source of infinite pleasure. Thought to them is a necessary exercise, and therefore their pleasure is great when books provide them with the substance of thinking.

**Emotional Pleasure of Reading:** Reading also brings satisfaction to men of emotional temperament. They read poetry and drama and fiction. Reading gives them all the thrill and excitement of variety for which their emotional nature is forever hungry. Emotional pleasure is a permanent need for the human mind. Reading therefore gives man pleasures that are denied in real life as long as the latter remains stunted and crippled in an imperfect social order.

**Creative Value of Reading:** The ordinary man enjoys reading, in a large measure, as a healthy and innocent form of recreation. After the day's labour, one feels happy to relax over a pleasant book, a book of one's own choice, which makes no very great demand on the mental power, and is therefore soothing and comfortable. He turns over the pages, taking in what amuses him and without any other ulterior object. Such reading is, in a material sense, unprofitable, but it serves the purpose of refreshing the tired mind. Few pleasure can really be greater than this.

Human companionship may be sometimes unwanted and irritating. It can neither be always received with pleasure nor dismissed without giving offence or causing pains. But books make no such demand. One can take up a book or lay it as one's mood dictates. Isn't it a great joy in itself? Life indeed has few greater sources of pleasure and happiness than the joy of enjoying freedom in the matter of dictating our own happiness in terms of our convenience.

**A. Match the words in column A with their meanings in column B. 5×1=5**

A	B
a) temperament	i) worthless
b) grapple	ii) displeasure
c) crippled	iii) to tackle
d) offence	iv) harmed
e) unprofitable	v) nature
	vi) valued

**B. Choose and copy the best alternatives. 5×1=5**

- a) Prior to the invention of printing, books used to be \_\_\_\_\_.
- i) easily available      ii) difficult to get      iii) many in number
- b) People who are \_\_\_\_\_ by nature find joy in solving problems.
- i) intellectual      ii) emotional      iii) creative
- c) Emotional readers love \_\_\_\_\_.
- i) exciting storylines      ii) thinking      iii) fighting problems
- d) An ordinary man generally reads books to \_\_\_\_\_.
- i) solve problems      ii) enhance reasoning      iii) take recreation
- e) \_\_\_\_\_ may not always be desirable.
- i) Reading books      ii) People's company      iii) Seeking freedom

**C. Answer the following questions. 5×1=5**

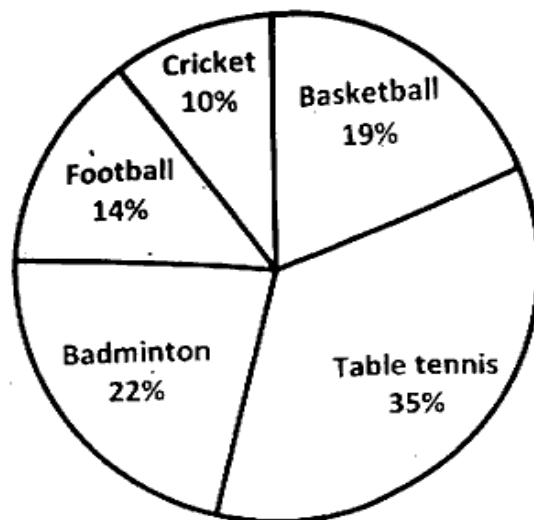
- a) Why were there only a few books in the past?
- b) How do the pleasures experienced in reading vary?
- c) Name the different forms of pleasure that can be achieved from reading.
- d) What, according to the writer, is soothing and comfortable?
- e) What kind of demand does the writer mean when he says 'Books make no such demands'? <https://www.nebstudy.com>

- 5. Imagine that one of your friends has won the National Level English Essay Writing Competition organized by Central PABSON. Write a formal message of congratulation to be published in a newspaper, on behalf of your school, using the clues given below. 5**

Suraksha Maharjan ----- Grade 10 student ----- competition organized on 7 Falgun 2077 ----- good expressive skills in English language ----- won prizes for the school on several occasions in the past too ----- congratulations ----- best wishes

6. The following chart shows the popularity of sports among the students of Rising Blooms School. Study the chart and write a description in about 100 words. 5

POPULARITY OF SPORTS IN RISING BLOOMS SCHOOL



7. Do you agree that the time that young people spend playing on mobiles and computers is damaging their quality of life? Express your views for or against the subject in about 120 words. 6
8. Write a review about the most exciting movie that you have ever watched in about 200 words. 8
9. Reproduce the following sentences as directed in the brackets.  $6 \times 1 = 6$
- He hardly knew how it tasted, \_\_\_\_\_? (Add a question tag.)
  - Isn't it your generosity to help us in our difficulty? (into affirmative statement)
  - The guard had duty in two spots in 24 hours. (into negative)
  - People say that he is from a foreign country. (into passive)
  - Let us rest for a while. We \_\_\_\_\_ since 6 am. (Use the correct form of 'work'.)
  - I asked him whether he had been present at the meeting the day before. (into direct speech)

10. Choose the correct words from the brackets to complete the passage given below. (Rewriting the passage is not compulsory). 10×0.5=5

Sniffer dog Tucker uses his nose to help researchers find out why (i) (a/ an/ the) killer whale population of the northwest coast of the United States is (ii) (in/ on/ at) the decline. He searches for whale faeces floating on the surface of the water, which (iii) (is/ are/ were) then collected for examination. He is one of the elite teams of detection dogs used by scientists studying a number of species including right whales and killer whales. This sounds absolutely amazing, (iv) (isn't it/ didn't it/ doesn't it)?

"Conservation canines (v) (are fast becoming/ had fast become/ will fast become) indispensable tools for biologists," says Aimee Hurt, Associate Director and Co-founder of Working Dogs for Conservation, based in Three Forks, Montana. Over the last few years, (vi) (in spite of/ because/ though) so many new conservation dog projects (vii) (sprung/ has sprung/ have sprung) up. Hurt can no longer keep track of them all. "Dogs have such a phenomenal sense of smell," explained Sam Wasser, Director of the Centre for Conservation Biology at the University of Washington in Seattle. He has worked with scat-detection dogs since 1999. Scientists have been using Conservation Canines in their research since 1999. These dogs have enabled them to non-invasively access vast amount of genetic and physiological information which (viii) (is used/ used/ are used) to tackle conservation problems around the world. Such information has proved vital for determining the causes and consequences of human disturbances on wildlife as well as the actions needed to mitigate such impacts. The ideal detection dog is extremely energetic with an excessive play drive. These dogs (ix) (would happily work/ worked happily/ will happily work) all day long if they are motivated by a ball game as a reward. The obsessive and high energy personalities of detection dogs also make people (x) (dislike/ to dislike/ disliked) these dogs to maintain as pets.

*The End*