

**AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BOARD**

**SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE**

**CLASS X EXAMINATION**

**MAY 2016**

**English Compulsory Paper II**

**Time: 2 hours 10 minutes    Marks: 50**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**Please read the following instructions carefully.**

1. Check your name and school information. Sign if it is accurate.

**I agree that this is my name and school.  
Candidate's signature**

2. **RUBRIC.** There are **THREE** questions. Answer **ALL** questions. Question 2 offers **TWO** choices and Question 3 offers **THREE** choices. Attempt any **ONE** of the options in each.

3. When answering the questions:

Read each question carefully.

Use a black pointer to write your answers. **DO NOT** write your answers in pencil.

Use a black pencil for diagrams. **DO NOT** use coloured pencils.

**DO NOT** use staples, paper clips, glue, correcting fluid or ink erasers.

Complete your answer in the allocated space only. **DO NOT** write outside the answer box.

4. The marks for the questions are shown in brackets ( ).

Q.1.

(Total 18 Marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer all the questions that follow:

Climate is the long-term pattern of weather in a particular area. Weather can change from hour to hour, day to day, month to month or even from year to year. Because climates are mostly constant, living things can adapt to them. Polar bears have adapted to stay warm in polar climates, while cacti have evolved to hold onto water in dry climates.

5 The enormous variety of life on Earth results in large part from the variety of climates that exist.

Climates do change, however — they just change very slowly, over hundreds or even thousands of years. As climates change, organisms that live in the area must adapt, relocate, or risk going extinct. Earth's climate has changed many times. Earth has also experienced

10 several major ice ages—at least four in the past 500,000 years. During these periods, Earth's temperature decreased, causing an expansion of ice sheets and glaciers. The most recent Ice Age began about 2 million years ago and peaked about 20,000 years ago.

Changes in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere also have an impact on climate change. Gases like carbon dioxide trap the sun's heat in Earth's atmosphere, causing temperatures on

15 the surface to rise. Volcanoes — both on land and under the ocean — release greenhouse gases, so periods of high volcanic activity tend to be warmer.

Some human activities also affect the climate change release greenhouse gases — burning fossil fuels for transportation and electricity, or using agricultural technology that increases meat production (artificial farming of cows), for instance. Trees absorb carbon

20 dioxide, so cutting down forests for timber or development contributes to the greenhouse effect. So do factories that emit pollutants into the atmosphere.

Many scientists are worried that these activities are causing dramatic and dangerous changes in Earth's climate. Average temperatures around the world have risen since the late 1870s, when scientists began tracking them. The seven warmest years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century occurred in

25 the 1980s and 1990s. This warming trend may be a sign that the greenhouse effect is increasing because of human activity. This climate change is often referred to as “global warming.”

Pakistan makes a tiny contribution to total global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, less than 1% (among the lowest in the world) but it is among the countries most vulnerable to climate

30 change, and it has very low technical and financial capacity to adapt to its adverse impacts. The effects of climate change and global warming on Pakistan, the melting of glaciers in the Himalayas, threatening the volumetric flow rate of many of the most important rivers of Pakistan. In Pakistan, such effects are projected to impact millions of lives.

A climate vulnerability report released by environmental think-tank Germanwatch counted Pakistan among the three countries most affected by extreme weather events in 2012. The extreme weather calamities like earthquakes, floods and disturbance in sea level has

35 caused Pakistan lose many precious lives, food sources, loss of property and health issues.

The climate has changed many times during Earth's history, but the changes have occurred

40 slowly, over thousands of years. Only in this century have human activities begun to

influence climate. The temperature will continue to rise unless preventive steps are taken. Most climatologists agree that we must adapt environment friendly policies; otherwise we may face extreme weather events and climate change.

**Source: Adapted from National Geographic and The Express Tribune**

- a. Based on the information in this passage, what do you understand by the term 'climate change'? How does climate change affect living things? Give any ONE example of climate change from the text. (3 Marks)

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- b. Based on the information in this passage, describe the effect of 'greenhouse gases' on the environment. (2 Marks)

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- c. Explain 'global warming' in your own words. How is Pakistan affected by global warming?  
(3 Marks)

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- d. As inferred from the information given in the passage, suggest any FIVE measures to improve the climate situation of Pakistan.  
(5 Marks)

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e. Summarise the passage in no more than 100 words.

(5 Marks)

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Q.2.

(Total 14 Marks)

Compose a response of about 200-250 words to any **ONE** of the options **a or b**.

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**EITHER**

- a. Social issues are different in every society. A **social issue** (also called a **social problem** or a **social conflict**) refers to an issue that influences and is opposed by a considerable number of individuals within a society. People often have different opinions about social issues according to their moral beliefs.

Write a report for the Principal of your school highlighting any ONE social issue that you feel most concerned about. Your report should explain how that social problem affects you and other people in your school. In your report, explain

- how the chosen issue affects people
- possible solutions of the problem

**OR**

- b. Youth of today are very critical, and rarely appreciative, of their country. You have read a letter recently written by a youngster to a newspaper editor, mentioning the difficulties faced by him in his country. Being a responsible citizen, reply to that letter, outlining the responsibilities of youth for the development of a country.

*Make your notes below. Write the final draft on pages 7 and 8.*

Option \_\_\_\_\_

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Q.3.

(Total 18 Marks)

Write a composition of about 200-300 words on any **ONE** of the options **a, b or c**.  
Remember to compose the final draft in complete sentences.

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**EITHER**

a.

- Women riders drive motorcycles all over the world, including Muslim countries like Malaysia, Indonesia and Bangladesh, but not in Pakistan, hence, restricting their mobility.
- A Pakistani woman seeking to travel on a motorcycle has to perch herself with both legs on the same side of the motorcycle seat. Women are commonly seen sitting this way despite the discomfort and risk of losing balance and getting injured.
- A male motorcyclist is required by law to wear a safety helmet, but his female passenger is not. Expectedly, in an accident, the passenger without helmet has more chance of getting seriously injured.

Analyse the given social situation in detail. Do you think women should also drive motorcycles? What steps should be taken to make motorcycle travel more secure for both male and female travellers? Give reasons for your answer.

**OR**

- b. Which scientific breakthrough/ invention is the most important in your opinion? Explain reasons for the efficacy of your mentioned scientific breakthrough/ invention and discuss how it is helpful for people around the world.

**OR**

- c. In an article published recently in New York Times, an elderly person described how his 25-year-old son does what he loves, even if it doesn't earn him much money. His son's life, he writes, is making him rethink how "success" might be measured.

Do you think your generation can teach valuable lessons about life, success and happiness to the generation of your parents? Elaborate your answer with reasons and/ or examples.

*Make your notes on the page given for rough work. Write the final draft on pages 10 and 11.*

Option \_\_\_\_\_

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END OF PAPER

Please use this page for rough work

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