

From the Examination Year 2021, a component of Project Work of 20 marks has been introduced in ISC English. For the ISC 2021 Examination, candidates will be required to attempt a Theory paper of 80 Marks and complete Project work of 20 Marks. The detailed syllabus is given below:

ENGLISH (801)

CLASS XII

The subject English has *two* components, *English Language* and *Literature in English*. Each of these components will consist of a *Theory Paper* of 80 Marks and *Project Work* of 20 Marks.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

There will be two papers in English Language:

Paper I: Theory (3 hours): 80 Marks

Paper II: Project Work: 20 Marks

PAPER I: THEORY - 80 Marks

Question One:

A composition on one of a number of subjects.

... 20 Marks

Question Two:

(a) Directed writing (article writing, book review, film review, review of cultural programme, speech writing, report writing, personal profile, and statement of purpose) based on suggested points.

...15 Marks

(b) Proposal Writing based on a given situation. The proposal should include (i) An Introduction (ii) Objectives (iii) List of measures to be taken. A concluding statement is desirable.

...10 Marks

Question Three:

Short-answer questions to test grammar, structure and usage.

...15 Marks

Question Four:

Comprehension.

...20 Marks

NOTE: It is recommended that in Paper 1, about 45 minutes should be spent on Question one, 55 minutes on Question two, 30 minutes on Question three and 50 minutes on Question four.

Question One

Candidates will be required to select *one* composition topic from a choice of *six*. The choice will normally include narrative, descriptive, reflective, argumentative, discursive topics and short story.

The required length of the composition is **400 – 450** words.

The main criteria by which the compositions will be marked are as follows:

(a) The quality of the language employed, the range and appropriateness of vocabulary and sentence structure, syntax, the correctness of grammatical constructions, punctuation and spelling.

(b) The degree to which candidates have been successful in organising the content of the composition as a whole and in individual paragraphs.

Question Two

There are *two* parts in this question and *both* parts are compulsory.

(a) The piece of directed writing will be based on the information and ideas provided. The required length will be about 300 words. The range of subjects may include article writing, book review, film review, review of cultural

programme, speech writing, report writing, personal profile and statement of purpose.

Skills such as selecting, amplifying, describing, presenting reasoned arguments, re-arranging and re-stating may be involved. The candidates' ability in the above skills, including format, will be taken into account as well as their ability to handle language appropriately in the context of the given situation.

(b) Candidates will be required to write a proposal based on a given situation. The proposal should include an introduction, objectives and a list of measures to be taken. A concluding statement is desirable. The candidates will also be marked on linguistic ability.

Question Three

All the items in this question are compulsory and their number and type / pattern may vary from year to year. They will consist of short-answer, open completion items or any other type, which will test the candidates' knowledge of the essentials of functional English grammar and structure. Only two or three types will be included in any one examination.

PAPER II: PROJECT WORK - 20 Marks

In addition to the syllabus prescribed above, candidates are also required to be assessed in Project Work.

Project Work in Class XII consists of assessment of candidates in **three** projects, **one each** on **Listening, Speaking** and **Writing skills**.

Listening and Speaking skills are to be **assessed internally**, by the School, during English course work in Class XII.

Writing Skills are to be **assessed externally** by the Visiting Examiner, appointed locally and approved by the Council.

Details of assignments for Project Work are given below:

Question Four

A passage of about 500 words will be provided.

Questions based on the passage will be as follows:

- Questions that test the candidates' knowledge of vocabulary and ability to understand the content and infer information and meanings from the text.
- A question that elicits the main ideas of all or part of the passage.

In this part of the question, the candidate will be required to frame a summary (keeping to a word limit), in a coherent manner. Marks will be awarded for expression and the candidate's ability to summarise clearly in complete sentences. Marks will be deducted for linguistic errors.

It is recommended that this part be done in the grid form.

Use of abbreviations will not be accepted.

All questions are compulsory.

Listening Skills (to be internally assessed by the subject teacher)

An unseen passage of about 500 words may be read aloud, twice, the first time at normal reading speed (about 110 words a minute) and the next time at a slower speed. The passage may be taken from any novel, newspaper, magazine article, journal and so on but **not from an ICSE or ISC textbook**. Students may make brief notes during the readings followed by answering objective type questions based on the passage, on the paper provided.

Speaking Skills (to be internally assessed by the subject teacher)

Students are to be assessed through an individual presentation of about three minutes followed by a discussion with the subject teacher, for another two or three minutes on any one of the following topics:

| Topics | Examples |
|---|---|
| 1. Narrating an experience. | An incident from my childhood days. |
| 2. Giving a report. | A report of a school event. |
| 3. Expressing an opinion or theme based conversation. | What is your opinion of on-line learning? |

Writing Skills (to be externally assessed by the Visiting Examiner)

A piece of written work of about 500 words must be produced on any one of the following topics:

| Topics | Examples |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Description of a process. | Description of how to operate a device, cook a dish or conduct a scientific experiment. |
| 2. A description of a sporting event. | A description of a cricket match. |
| 3. An autobiographical experience. | The day I learnt the lesson of punctuality. |
| 4. A review of a TV serial. | A review – favourable or unfavourable of any TV serial. |

EVALUATION

Marks (out of a total of 20) should be distributed as given below:

| | | |
|--------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Internal Evaluation by Teacher* | |
| | • Listening Skills (Aural) | 5 Marks |
| | • Speaking Skills (Oral) | 5 Marks |
| 2. | Evaluation by Visiting Examiner of Writing Skills** | 10 Marks |
| TOTAL | | 20 Marks |

*** Internal Evaluation by the Teacher (10 Marks):**

| Assessment Criteria | Description | Marks |
|--------------------------|--|-----------|
| Listening Skills (Aural) | Response to questions based on listening comprehension | 5 |
| Speaking Skills (Oral) | - Content | 1 |
| | - Fluency | 1 |
| | - Vocabulary | 1 |
| | - Sentence structure | 1 |
| | - Confidence | 1 |
| TOTAL | | 10 |

****Criteria for Evaluation by the Visiting Examiner (10 Marks):**

| Assessment Criteria | Description | Marks |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------|
| 1. Presentation | Overall formatting (headings, sub-headings, paragraphing) within a word limit of 500 words and a separate title page. | 2 |
| 2. Originality | No plagiarism | 2 |
| 3. Use of appropriate language | Use of suitable terminology, vocabulary and illustrations for the specific task chosen. | 2 |
| 4. Structure | Must read as a unified whole. | 2 |
| 5. Style | Lucid style, which communicates the message effectively | 2 |
| TOTAL | | 10 |

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH (PRESCRIBED TEXTS)

CLASS XII

There will be **two** papers in Literature in English:

Paper I: Theory (3 hours): 80 Marks

Paper II: Project Work: 20 Marks

PAPER I: THEORY – 80 Marks

Candidates will be required to answer **five** questions as follows:

One textual question (compulsory) on the Shakespeare play together with **four** other questions on **the three** texts.

Question 1 compulsory.... 20 Marks, four other questions, each carrying 15 Marks.

(Note: Candidates are reminded that infringement of the rubric will certainly invite penalty during the marking of answer scripts.)

The textual question, which will be set on the Shakespeare play, will contain **three** short passages and candidates will be required to answer questions set on **two** of the passages. These Questions may require candidates to explain words and phrases, to rewrite passages in modern English, or to relate an extract to the work as a whole.

The rest of the questions on the Shakespeare play and on the other prescribed texts will be set on the episodes, the plot or plots, themes or ideas, characters, relationship and other prominent literary qualities of the texts prescribed.

NOTE:

The Class XII - ISC Examination paper will be set on the entire syllabus prescribed for the subject.

Syllabus to be covered in Class XII for the ISC Examination - Literature in English (English Paper – 2)*

I. Drama: *The Tempest*: William Shakespeare
(Complete drama)

II. Echoes: A Collection of ISC Short Stories
(Evergreen Publications (India) Ltd, New Delhi).

1. *Salvatore* – W. Somerset Maugham
2. *Fritz* – Satyajit Ray

3. *Quality* – John Galsworthy
4. *To Build a Fire* – Jack London
5. *The Story of an Hour* – Kate Chopin
6. *The Chinese Statue* – Jeffrey Archer
7. *A Gorilla in the Guest Room* – Gerald Durrell
8. *The Singing Lesson* – Katherine Mansfield
9. *The Sound Machine* – Roald Dahl
10. *B. Wordsworth* – V.S. Naipaul

III. Reverie: A Collection of ISC Poems (Evergreen Publications (India) Ltd, New Delhi)

1. *The Darkling Thrush* – Thomas Hardy
2. *Birches* – Robert Frost
3. *The Dolphins* – Carol Ann Duffy
4. *The Gift of India* – Sarojini Naidu
5. *Crossing the Bar* – Alfred, Lord Tennyson
6. *John Brown* – Bob Dylan
7. *Desiderata* - Max Ehrmann
8. *Dover Beach* – Matthew Arnold
9. *The Spider and the Fly* – Mary Botham Howitt
10. *We are the Music Makers* – Arthur William Edgar O’Shaughnessy

***For the ISC Examination, the complete syllabus covered in Classes XI and XII will be examined for Literature in English (English Paper – 2).**

For list of Prescribed Textbooks, see Appendix I.

PAPER II: PROJECT WORK - 20 Marks

In addition to the syllabus prescribed above, candidates are also required to be assessed in Project Work. Project Work consists of assessment of **Writing Skills**. The objective is to produce original, creative and insightful perspectives on the drama/short stories/poems.

Project Work in Class XII consists of assessment of **Writing Skills** which are **to be assessed internally by the subject teacher and externally by the Visiting Examiner** appointed locally and approved by the Council.

Candidates will be required to undertake *one written assignment of 1000-1500 words*, on any one of the following topics:

| Topics | Examples |
|---|---|
| 1. Analysis of the theme of any story or poem from the prescribed texts. | Discuss the attitudes to war presented in the poem <i>John Brown</i> . |
| 2. Analysis of a character from the play, short stories or poems in the prescribed texts. | Analyse the character of either <i>Caliban</i> from <i>The Tempest</i> , <i>Salvatore</i> from <i>the short story</i> or <i>John Brown</i> from <i>the poem</i> . |
| 3. Summary or paraphrase of a story or poem. | |
| 4. An alternate outcome to any of the chosen texts. | Provide an alternate ending to the short story <i>Fritz</i> . |
| 5. Comparison of two characters from two different texts. | Compare the two woman characters of <i>The Singing Lesson</i> and <i>The Story of an Hour</i> . |

The assignment should be structured as given below:

- A. The written assignment must be given a title in the form of a question which should allow the candidate to explore the drama or the chosen short stories/poems in depth.
- B. The written assignment must follow the structure given below:
- Introduction:
 - Explanation of the question that has been framed

- Reason for choosing the text
- Brief explanation of how the candidate intends to interpret the chosen text and literary materials used in the process
- Main Body – organised and well-structured treatment of the question using appropriate sub-headings.
- Conclusion – comprehensive summary of the points made in the main body.

EVALUATION

Marks (out of a total of 20) should be distributed as given below:

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Internal Evaluation by Teacher* | 10 marks |
| 2. | Evaluation by Visiting Examiner** | 10 marks |
| TOTAL | | 20 marks |

* Internal Evaluation by the Teacher (10 Marks):

| Assessment Criteria | Candidates should be able to: | Marks |
|---|--|-----------|
| 1. Process | Identify the topic. Plan a detailed written assignment. Produce a written outline. | 3 |
| 2. Understanding, Application of Knowledge and Analysis | Use a range of literary aspects such as plot, setting, characters, action, style and ideas in order to present an organized and well-structured complete assignment. | 4 |
| 3. Presentation | Prepare the document (overall format: headings, sub-headings, paragraphing) writing within a word limit of 1000-1500 words and provide a separate title page. | 3 |
| TOTAL | | 10 |

****Criteria for Evaluation by the Visiting Examiner (10 Marks)**

| Assessment Criteria | | Candidates should be able to: | Marks |
|----------------------------|--|--|--------------|
| 1. | Presentation | Prepare the document (overall format: headings, sub-headings, paragraphing) writing within a word limit of 1000-1500 words and provide a separate title page. | 4 |
| 2. | Understanding, Application of Knowledge and Analysis | Use a range of literary aspects such as plot, setting, characters, action, style and ideas in order to present an organized and well-structured complete assignment. | 6 |
| TOTAL | | | 10 |

Note: No Question Paper for Project Work will be set by the Council.