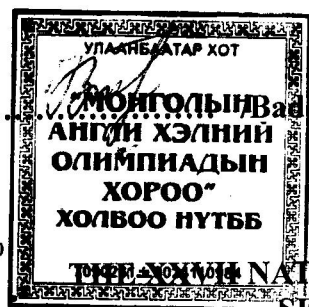


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MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION AND
SCIENCE



**THE 2024 NATIONAL ENGLISH OLYMPIAD – 2024
SECOND ROUND**



FOR TEACHERS (Public schools)

NAME: _____

TIME: 120 min

TASK 1. Reading. Read the text and answer the questions. /2x10 =20points/

- 1) Science plays a crucial role in identifying problems related to how natural systems function and deteriorate, particularly when they are affected by an external factor. In turn, scientific findings shape the policies introduced to protect such systems where necessary. Experts are frequently called upon by politicians to provide evidence which can be used to make scientifically sound, or at least scientifically justifiable policy decisions.
- 2) Issues arise as there are frequent disagreements between experts over the way data is gathered and interpreted. An example of the former is the first scientific evidence of a hole in the ozone layer by the British Antarctic Survey. (1) The findings were at first greeted by the scientific community with scepticism, as the British Antarctic Survey was not yet an established scientific community. (2) Moreover, it was generally believed that satellites would have picked up such ozone losses if they were indeed occurring. (3) It was not until the methodology of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center was reviewed that it became apparent that data had been overlooked. (4)
- 3) With regards to the latter, controversy between scientists may arise where data analysis appears to support one policy over another. In 1991, the World Resource Institute (WRI) published estimates of net emissions and sinks of greenhouse gases for a number of countries, including India. The report provoked criticisms among Indian scientists who argued that the figures had failed to take some significant factors into account, leading to overestimated emission values. The WRI was accused of blaming less economically developed countries for global warming; a stance which, if accepted, could impede industrialisation and sustain, even widen, the wealth gap.
- 4) Problems regarding the scientific method are well documented and it is widely accepted by the scientific community that, however consistent scientists are in their procedures, the results born under different circumstances can vary markedly. A number of factors influence research, among them the organisation of a laboratory, the influence of prevailing theories, financial constraints and the peer review process. Consequently, scientists tend to believe they are not in a position to bear universal truths but to reveal tendencies.
- 5) However, **this** is countered by two factors. Firstly, certain scientific institutions wish to maintain a degree of status as 'bearers of truth'. Further, policy makers uphold this understanding by requesting scientific certainties in order to legitimise their policy decisions. According to a number of authors who have documented this process, decision makers do not necessarily try to obtain all the information which is or could be made available regarding an issue. Rather, they select that information, which is necessary to fulfil their goals, information termed as 'half-knowledge'. Attempts to underplay transboundary issues such as water provision and pollution are cases in point. Politicians clearly cannot pretend that certain data do not exist if they are well-known in scientific communities or national borders, but some discretion is evident, especially where there is controversy and uncertainty.
- 6) It is important to note that policies regarding scientific issues are influenced in no small part by societal factors. These include the relative importance of certain environmental issues, the degree of trust in the

institutions conducting the research, and not least the social standing of those affected by the issue. In other words, environmental problems are in many ways socially constructed according to the prevailing cultural, economic and political conditions within a society. It has been suggested, for example, that contemporary 'post-materialist' Western societies pay greater attention to 'quality' - including environmental quality – than 'quantity'. This theory does not necessarily assume that people of low-income countries have no interest in environmental protection, as the example of the Chipko movement in India clearly demonstrates but demonstrates that the way a resource is valued varies widely among different communities.

7) Finally, it cannot be denied that the 'issue of the day' changes constantly. One issue becomes more or less urgent than another, based on current events. Concurrently, new issues enter the political agenda. It has been noted that it often takes a 'policy entrepreneur', someone who dedicates time, energy and financial resources to a certain issue, to raise its profile. Furthermore, whether an issue is taken up by political, environmental or media groups depends very much on the degree to which it suits their particular agenda, not to mention the budget.

1. With reference to paragraph 1, which of the following pieces of research would be relevant to this article?
 - a. the effect of climate change on weather patterns in Africa
 - b. whether or not low-level radiation increases the risk of cancer
 - c. how acid rain impacts species within a lake ecosystem
 - d. a comparison of the species presents in two areas of woodland
2. What is the purpose of the example of ozone data given in paragraph 2?
 - a. to show that NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center used unreliable methods of gathering scientific data
 - b. to show how data gathering methods and the status of scientists may affect the way data is regarded\
 - c. to prove that it is wrong to dismiss evidence which comes from a non-established source
 - d. to show how NASA and the British Antarctic Survey disagreed over the correct way to gather ozone data.
3. Where in paragraph 2 does this sentence best fit?

This was because of the way their computers had been programmed to discard any readings which appeared anomalous.

 - a. 1
 - b. 2
 - c. 3
 - d. 4
4. Paragraph 3 gives an example of a dispute over...
 - a. which country was most responsible for producing greenhouse gases
 - b. the pollution caused by multinational companies in India.
 - c. how statistics were interpreted and presented.
 - d. erroneous data which resulted from a poorly funded experiment.
5. In paragraph 5, 'this' refers to...
 - a. the scientific method and its inherent problems.
 - b. the belief that scientists cannot reveal universal truths.
 - c. the variation in scientific results under different circumstances.
 - d. the list of factors which influence scientific research.

6. What is meant by this sentence?

'Further, policy makers uphold this understanding by requesting scientific certainties in order to legitimise their policy decisions.'

- a. Politicians, when seeking evidence for policymaking, do not understand the fact that scientists are unable to act as 'bearers of truth'.
- b. Politicians consider the scientific research that supports their policies as more legitimate than another research.
- c. Scientific institutions encourage politicians to use them for policymaking in order to improve their status.
- d. Politicians, when seeking evidence for policymaking, encourage the belief that scientists can produce incontestable facts.

7. Which sentence best sums up the ideas in paragraph 4?

- a. Scientists are aware that their work cannot present incontrovertible facts.
- b. If scientists were more consistent, they could create more reliable evidence.
- c. Variations in how research is conducted often affect its validity.
- d. Scientists spend more time documenting problems than conducting research.

8. Why are 'transboundary issues such as water provision and pollution' referred to in paragraph 5?

- a. to illustrate situations in which politicians pretend that certain data does not exist
- b. to illustrate situations in which incorrect information is given by scientific institutions keen to maintain their status.
- c. to illustrate situations in which politicians are selective with regards to what data they gather
- d. to illustrate situations in which policy makers request scientists to present them with scientific certainties, even though none exist.

9. What can be inferred about the Chipko movement?

- a. It was an example of how people in low-income countries have little interest in environmental protection.
- b. It was an example of how different people within a community valued a resource differently.
- c. It was an example of how people in a low-income community showed interest in protecting the environment.
- d. It was an example of how people in a low-income community valued quantity over quality.

10. Which of the following arguments is NOT presented in paragraph 7?

- a. An issue only gets political or media attention if someone with a high profile is supporting it.
- b. Politicians are only interested in environmental issues if it benefits them.
- c. Issues don't get public attention unless a particular person advocates it strongly.
- d. Issues may be overlooked if there are other significant events happening at the time.

TASK 2. Listening section. Questions 11-14. Complete the sentences below. Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer. /1x10=20 points/

TRAIN INFORMATION

- 11. Local services depart from _____ railway station.
- 12. National services depart from the _____ railway station.
- 13. Trains for London depart every _____ each day during the week.
- 14. The price of a first-class ticket includes _____

Questions 15-17. Complete the table below. Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Type of ticket	Details
Standard open	No restrictions
Supersave	Travel after 8.45
Special 16.....	Travel after 15and at weekends
	Buy at least six days a head limited numbers 17.....essential

Questions 18-20. Choose **THREE** letters, **A -G**. Which **THREE** attractions can you visit a, present by train from Treburch?

- A a science museum
- B a theme park
- C a climbing wall
- D a mining museum
- E an aquarium
- F a castle
- G a zoo

Questions 21-30. Complete the tables below. Write **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Dissertation Tutorial Record (Education)

Name: Sandy Gibbons

Targets previously agreed	Work completed	Further action suggested
Investigate suitable data analysis software	Read IT 21 -Spoken to Jane Prince, Head of the 22	Sign up for some software practice sessions
Prepare a 23 for survey	- Completed and sent for review	Add questions in section three on 24
Further reading about discipline	-Read Banerjee - N.B. Couldn't find Ericsson's essays on managing the 25	Obtain from library through special loans service
New Targets	Specific suggestions	Timing

Do further work on Chapter 1 (Give the title: Context 26	- Add statistics on the 27....., in various zones - Include more references to works dated after 28	By the 29
Prepare list of main sections for Chapter 2	- Use index cards to help in organisation	Before starting the 30.....

TASK 3. Grammar and Vocabulary /40 points/

a. Choose the best answer. /20 points/

- Everyone lost their money when the so-called treasurer with all the society's savings.
(a) avoided (b) evaded (c) absolved (d) absconded
- The police not only arrested the leader of the gang but also the who had helped him.
(a) acolytes (b) attackers (c) accomplices (d) associates
- I have no wish to these criminal activities but I do have some sympathy with the perpetrators.
(a) condone (b) concede (c) console (d) conduct
- The judge has to adopt a view of the crime by being utterly impartial.
(a) detracted (b) detached (c) definite (d) defended
- Despite all the chaos around him the captain remained totally calm and assumed an air of
(a) equation (b) equality (c) equanimity (d) equity
- The police stopped the car because it had followed an course down the road and asked the driver why he was going from side to side.
(a) uneven (b) unequal (c) unerring (d) erratic
- It was possible to look up the topic on the internet, but she decided instead to ask her father who knew the answer to most things.
(a) earnest (b) erudite (c) learning (d) imminent
- The party leader advised all her members to any question about finance and avoid the topic of money completely.
(a) risk (b) undertake (c) eschew (d) involve
- He has a very refined vocabulary and prefers to use a rather than a more common and vulgar word.
(a) euphemism (b) delicacy (c) finery (d) edition
- I've looked everywhere for my key and even carried out an search for my car but I can't find that book.
(a) exhausted (b) exhausting (c) exhaust (d) exhaustive
- Middle Eastern restaurants often have a way of whisking you away to a far-off land of belly dancers, exotic spices and drink.
(a) incriminating (b) intimidating (c) intoxicating (d) instigating
- Thai cuisine is one of the most romantic of the Asian cuisines as it still an element of mystery and exoticism.
(a) remains (b) retains (c) refrains (d) regains
- Modern Asian restaurants in Jakarta have an history.
(a) extended (b) external (c) extracted (d) exude
- Indonesia has an range of Japanese restaurants as Japan has long been the biggest investor in the country
(a) ecliptic (b) ecstatic (c) eclectic (d) eccentric
- International restaurants in Singapore are adept at simultaneously perfecting both eastern and western dishes on their menus
(a) partially (b) particularity (c) partly (d) particularly
- Hong Kong has to be one of the few places on the planet where you can enjoy cuisine and service at relatively reasonable prices.
(a) exquisite (b) explicit (c) expletive (d) explosive
- European cuisine always a sense of nostalgia and romance, like running into an old flame.
(a) evolves (b) evinces (c) evokes (d) evicts
- America is at the front of the race to become the world's most obese country.
(a) undecidedly (b) undeniably (c) underbelly (d) underling
- Many people drink wine, but many wine consumers know little about wine or wine and food pairing because they are intimidated or put off by the pretensions often associated with wine.
(a) appropriation (b) appreciation (c) apportion (d) apprehension
- One of the most beautiful things about Jakarta is its wealth from both within the archipelago and around the world.
(a) cursory (b) cautionary (c) coronary (d) culinary

b. Choose the best answer. /10 points/

1. If the car _____ once more, I'm going to get a new one.
A) breaks down B) comes about C) gives in D) changes down
2. Not one of the girl's teachers could _____ her poor examination results.
A) act out B) answer back C) account for D) ask after
3. New students spend the first few days _____ themselves _____ the layout of the university.
A) calling / out B) bringing / about C) acquainting / with D) carrying / on
4. You go now and I'll _____ you later.
A) catch up with B) back up C) go back on D) come about
5. We certainly didn't _____ all this rain when we booked the holiday.
A) hold out B) back up C) figure out D) run into
6. If you will just _____ me for a few moments, I'll explain the reasons behind the decision.
A) turn over to B) take up with C) bear with D) care for
7. He was glad he had _____ the first question.
A) took up with B) disposed of C) run into D) got ahead
8. Our advisors _____ the plan, saying that it would be too costly.
A) got over B) got through with C) got out of D) came out against
9. His new novel _____ in the fall.
A) shows up B) takes up C) sets out D) comes out
10. She could _____ a year's salary in a week if you let her.
A) put up with B) run through C) put aside D) carry out

c. Choose the correct answer. Only one answer is correct. /10 points/

I had been sitting 1 in my usual compartment 2 at least ten minutes, waiting 3 . The trains from Littlebury never seemed to start 4 and I often thought that I could have 5 in bed a little longer or had 6 cup of tea before 7 . Suddenly I heard someone shouting 8 the platform outside. A young girl was running towards the train. The man 9 put out his hand to stop her but she ran past him and opened the door of my compartment. Then the whistle blew, and the train started.

"I nearly missed it, 10 ?" the girl said. "How long does it take to get to London?"

1. A) for myself B) only myself C) by myself D) in my own
2. A) for B) during C) since D) meanwhile
3. A) the train to start B) for the train start C) the train's start D) for the train to start
4. A) on their hour B) on time C) at their hour D) at time
5. A) lain B) laid C) lied D) lay
6. A) other B) some other C) another D) one other
7. A) I had left the home B) leave from home C) leaving home D) to leave home
8. A) at B) by C) in D) on
9. A) at place B) on duty C) for control D) in post
10. A) haven't I B) don't I C) wasn't I D) didn't I

TASK 4. Writing section: Write about the following topic. /20 points/

Some people think that current environmental issues are global problems and should therefore be dealt with by the government while others believe that these problems can only be tackled by individuals. Discuss both sides and give your opinion /Write at least 300 words/.