

**AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BOARD**

**SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE**

**CLASS IX**

**ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS (THEORY) 2023**

**English Compulsory Paper II**

**Time: 2 hours      Marks: 45**

**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**

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**RUBRIC**

2. There are **THREE** questions. Answer **ALL** questions. Question 2 offers **TWO** choices and Question 3 offers **THREE** choices. Attempt any **ONE** choice from 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.  
**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 17 Marks)

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

The martial arts, being systems and traditions of combat, are not exclusive to Asian countries in their history. In fact, though Asian countries had a significant impact on martial arts, it was not until much later from its origin that martial arts took hold and spread through Asian countries. The first record related to martial arts is in Africa.

- 5 The earliest known instances and usage of martial arts comes from art, literature and artefacts. The oldest living artefact connected to martial arts is dated as far as 3400 BC, which was an ancient Egyptian painting that displays a struggle. This fresco showed military training at Beni Hassan, an ancient Egyptian cemetery site. The type of martial arts practiced in this area was primarily wrestling and duelling with sticks. However, evidence has been found that the soldiers sparred with spears, shields, clubs, axes, poleaxes\*, flails, bows, slings\*\* and various swords.

- 15 Getting back on the general timeline, after the Egyptians were sparring with wrestling and a variety of weapons, it can be seen that the ancient Babylonians were creating reliefs and literature based on martial struggle around 3000 BC. Also, around the same time in Vietnam, drawings and sketches were made around 2879 BC about fighting with spears, swords, sticks and bows. However, hardly any background detail is known about these pieces of art.

- 20 The next significant artefact that points to the development of martial arts is from China. At 2698 BC, the Yellow Emperor was recorded to be a general who wrote a great deal about martial arts before becoming the leader of China. As ChinaCulture.org states, "According to tradition, the Yellow Emperor introduced the earliest forms of martial arts to China. He allegedly developed the practice of *jiao di* or horn-butting and utilised it in war".

- 25 In terms of epicness\*\*\*, the Olympic Games of Greece are hard to find a comparison. The Olympic Games began in 776 BC and early events included wrestling, boxing and pankration\*\*\*\*. There is much more detail and history that could be added to this account, but this is the most basic timeline of martial arts...

\*Poleaxes: a European pole arm that was widely used by medieval military

\*\*Slings: a form of climbing equipment that consists of a tied or sewn loop of webbing

\*\*\*Epicness: (urban dictionary) used commonly for explaining things of large proportions

\*\*\*\*Pankration: It literary means 'all force' and is a combination of wrestling and boxing.

Source: Adapted from the article, '*Martial Arts*' as published on <https://academichelp.net/>

- a. Based on the information in the given passage, define the term 'martial arts' in your OWN words. (2 Marks)

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- b. Identify any FOUR aspects of martial arts as discussed by the author. (4 Marks)

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- c. In your opinion, which THREE additional features of martial arts should the author have further emphasised on and/ or included in the passage. (3 Marks)

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d. Summarise the given passage in no more than 100 words.

(5 Marks)

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e. Discuss any TWO ways in which martial arts can be beneficial for your community.

(3 Marks)

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Q.2.

(Total 10 Marks)

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

**EITHER**

- a. You had gone to a relative's place and broke an expensive decoration piece without anyone noticing. After going home, you felt guilty about the incident and decided to write an email to your relative.

Write an email. In your email,

- apologise for the accident.
- discuss how you would make it up to him/ her.

**OR**

- b. Your friend had applied for a scholarship programme of a school and was accepted. He/ she had written to you to help him/ her overcome anxiety about the first day at the new school.

Write a letter to your friend. In your letter,

- congratulate him/ her for this achievement.
- suggest a way to overcome anxiety about the new school.

*Make your notes below. Write your final draft on pages 6 and 7.*

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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**.

**EITHER**

- a. J. K. Rowling (author of the famous Harry Potter series) has said that when she was looking for a publisher for her book, she was rejected a total of 18 times. Many publishers refused to print her book but she never gave up.

Compose an essay about a similar experience from your own life. In your essay, describe

- an idea that you once had but it was rejected.
- your reaction to the rejection.
- a reason for the rejection.
- what has the experience taught you.

**OR**

- b. 'I was walking on a winter's night and suddenly...'

Narrate a story using the given line. In your narration, describe

- your surroundings.
- what had happened suddenly.
- your reaction to the situation.
- what happened afterwards.

**OR**

- c. We all may have received gifts on occasions such as birthdays, graduation, etc. But there might be some gifts which we may not have liked.

Compose an essay. In your essay, describe

- a gift (real or imaginary) you received and did not like.
- the reason why you disliked the gift.
- what you did with the gift.

*Make your notes on the pages given for rough work. Write your final draft on pages 9 and 10.*



Option \_\_\_\_\_

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END OF PAPER

Please use this page for rough work

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